## WAGNER

# DER FLIEGENDE HOLLÄNDER

Vocal Score

G. SCHIRMER

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# THE FLYING DUTCHMAN

(DER FLIEGENDE HOLLÄNDER) Piano- vocal Score

A Romantic Opera in Three Acts

Music by

# RICHARD WAGNER

The English Version by REV. J. TROUTBECK, D.D. and DR. THEO. BAKER

With an Essay on the History of the Opera by W. J. HENDERSON

Ed. 453

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G. SCHIRMER, Inc., NEW YORK

M1503 W2 F6 1897

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NORTHWEST

### THE FLYING DUTCHMAN.

FIRST PERFORMED AT DRESDEN, GERMANY, JAN. 2, 1843.

#### Characters of the Drama.

DALAND, Captain of a Nors								
THE DUTCHMAN								Baritone.
THE STEERSMAN (Mate)	of	Dalar	d's	vesse	1.			Tenor.
ERIK, a Huntsman			-	1.				Tenor.
MARY, Senta's Nurse .								Alto.
SENTA, Daughter of Daland	١.							Soprane.

Chorus of Norwegian Maidens, Crew of Daland's vessel, and Crew of the "Flying Dutchman".

SCENE, THE COAST OF NORWAY.

## "The Flying Dutchman."

"The Flying Dutchman" has a special interest for all Wagnerians and for students of music in general, because it exhibits the first fruits of those theories which made Wagner's subsequent productions the factors of a complete revolution in modern operatic form and style. The work itself falls between two fires, lacking, as it does, complete departure from the traditions and mannerisms of the older Italian school, and failing to reach the complete individuality and overwhelming power of its composer's later works. It is not sufficiently naïve to please admirers of "La Sonnambula", nor yet Wagnerian enough to touch the devotees of "Tristan" and "Parsifal". But for all that, it is a beautiful opera, and affords the only correct starting-point for a study of the Wagner system.

Wagner's first opera was "Rienzi", in which he aimed at achieving success through a combination of the methods of his predecessors. He found, however, that his plan was impracticable; that the methods would not fuse themselves into a genuine artistic expression. For a time, owing to pecuniary embarrassment, he abandoned the attempt to produce a creative work. A stormy voyage to England printed on his mind impressions of the sea, which subsequently served him well in his composition. A period of more than two years of absolute drudgery and impending starvation in Paris, drove him to a carelessness of all considerations of the future, and impelled him to embark upon the production of "The Flying Dutch-

man" according to the untrammeled promptings of his artistic nature. In the spring of 1841, he retired to Meudon, a village a short distance from Paris, and there, in seven weeks, he wrote this opera. Some years earlier, he had read the story in Heine's "Memoirs of Herr von Schnabelewopski", and he had also seen Wilhelm Hauff's tale of the phantom ship. The material in these stories was slight, and, as M. Adolphe Jullien notes, Wagner really did the work of a creative poet in his employment of it. He certainly built up the character of Senta, whose fidelity and love are the moving factors of the dramatic action. The story of the drama is simple, and the incidents few.

Vanderdecken, the Flying Dutchman, having struggled to double the Cape of Good Hope in the teeth of a gale, and having made a vow to do it if it took all eternity, is condemned by the powers of darkness to strive there for ever, unless he meets with a woman willing to die to save him. He is permitted to land once in seven years, and the first act of the drama opens with one of these landings. Daland, a Norwegian seaman, has already made a landing, and presently the two men meet. The Dutchman exhibits his treasures, and offers to pay extravagantly for lodging. Daland is, or course, amazed and delighted, and is quite carried away when this rich stranger, having ascertained that he has a daughter, asks her hand in marriage. He invites the Dutchman to his home. A breeze springs up, and they sail together.

The second act takes place in Daland's house. Senta and her companions are spinning, but Senta's mind is chiefly fixed on a portrait of the Dutchman, which hangs on the wall. She repeats, in a ballad, the legend of the unhappy man, and her friends are distressed at the infatuation she shows for the unknown seaman. They leave her to her lover, Erik, who vainly tries to induce her to abandon her folly and be his bride. After Erik leaves her, the Dutchman enters the house, and the girl stands transfixed, while her father fondly fancies that his plans for a brilliant match for his daughter are advancing admirably. The father leaves the two together, and Senta, listening to the Dutchman's wooing, readily promises to be faithful to death. In the last act, Vanderdecken overhears Erik upbraiding Senta for her forgetfulness of her promise to him, and thinking that she is fickle, sets sail, to wander seven years upon the sea. But Senta, crying out that she is faithful unto death, casts herself into the sea. The Flying Dutchman's ship disappears, and he and Senta are seen ascending skyward, locked in an eternal embrace.

The first sketch of this libretto was submitted to Léon Pillet, director of the Grand Opéra, who proposed to Wagner to buy it of him, and get some one else to write the music. Distasteful as this was to the author, stern necessity compelled him to accept 500 francs for his book; but he reserved the German rights. Then he went to work on his own version. The book which he sold to Pillet was made into a French opera called "Le Vaisseau fantôme", with music by Dietsch. It was a signal failure. The success of "Rienzi" in 1842 led to a hurried production of "The Flying Dutchman", at Dresden, on January 2, 1843, with Schroeder-Devrient as Senta, and Mitterwurzer as Vanderdecken. The marked difference between this opera and its predecessor amazed the public. The sombreness and simplicity of the

story and the originality of the music aroused only antipathy. The famous composer and violinist, Ludwig Spohr, was almost alone in his recogition of the excellence of the work, and he proclaimed Wagner the most gifted of contemporary composers for the stage. Spohr produced "The Flying Dutchman" at Cassel on June 5, 1843. In Berlin and Munich, the latter of which it reached in 1865, the opera failed. It was produced in Italian at Drury Lane in London in 1870. The work was given at the Academy of Music in New York in 1878 by the Pappenheim-Adams Company, though it had already had a passing performance in Philadelphia under the direction of Gotthold Carlberg. On March 17, 1886, it was produced in English at the Academy of Music, New York, by the American Opera Company, with the following cast: Vanderdecken, William Ludwig; Senta, Helen Hastreiter; Daland, Myron W. Whitney; Erik, Whitney Mockridge; Mary, Helen Dudley Campbell; Steersman, W. H. Fessenden. Theodore Thomas conducted. It was first given in German at the Metropolitan Opera House, November 27, 1889, with Theodore Reichmann as the Dutchman, Emil Fischer as Daland, Paul Kalisch as Erik, Albert Mittelhauser as the Steersman, Sophie Wiesner as Senta, and Charlotte Huhn as Mary. Anton Seidl conducted. It was first performed in Italian at the same house on March 31, 1892, with the following cast: The Dutchman, Jean Lasalle; Daland, Edouard de Reszké; Erik, M. Montariol: Senta, Mme. Albani. Mr. Seidl was the conductor.

The foundations of Wagner's entire operatic system are to be found in this opera, and it would be a manifest injustice to neglect to call the attention of the reader to them. The first feature of the Wagnerian system which is to be noted in the "Flying Dutchman" is the employment of a mythical subject. Wagner himself has told us that it was the elementary humanity of the myth which made it appeal to him. "The legend", he says, "in whatever nation or age it may be placed, has the advantage that it comprehends only the purely human portion of this age or nation, and presents this portion in a form peculiar to it, thoroughly concentrated, and, therefore, easily intelligible. \* \* \* This legendary character gives a great advantage to the poetic arrangement of the subject, for the reason already mentioned, that, while the simple process of the action—easily comprehensible as far as its outward relations are concerned—renders unnecessary any painstaking for the purpose of explanation of the course of the story, the greatest possible portion of the poem can be devoted to the portrayal of the inner motives of the action—those inmost motives of the soul, which, indeed, the action points out to us as necessary, through the fact that we ourselves feel in our hearts a sympathy with them".

Wagner divined clearly the necessity of subordinating mere pictorial movement to the play of emotion, and it will be easily discerned that the three acts of "The Flying Dutchman" reduce themselves to a few broad emotional episodes. In the first, our attention is centered upon the longing of the Dutchman, and in the second, upon the love of Senta. In the third, we have the inevitable and hopeless struggle of the passion of Erik against Senta's love. All the music not designed to embody these broad emotional states, is scenic, such as the storm-music, and the choruses of the sailors and the women. Furthermore, the student will do well to note that the

chief personages of the story are types. Vanderdecken is typical of the man struggling under the burden of his own follies, while Senta is the embodiment of the woman-soul, which, according to Goethe, "leadeth us ever upward and on". This ethical principle of the salvation of man through the pure love of woman was very dear to Wagner, and it is to be found in some form in nearly all of his dramatic works. We come now to the Wagnerian musical system which originated in this work.

As we have already seen in his earlier operas, Wagner endeavored to reach a correct musical embodiment of the emotions indicated by his text, through a fusion of extant styles. In the process of the effort, he became convinced of its futility. He saw that one of the most formidable obstacles in the way of success was the old-fashioned habit of writing finished and rounded arias for the sake of pure musical beauty. He perceived the vital fact that, in opera, the music must become the handmaid of the poetry. In seeing that, he saw that musical formulæ must be sacrificed, and that led him to a perception of the important truth, that having once discovered the best musical investiture of any given emotion, he ought to associate every reappearance of that emotion with the same musical expression. This led to the adoption of a system of *Leitmotive*, leading-motives or "typical phrases", as they have been called very happily, each one designed to represent some particular person, mood, or thought in the drama. In "The Flying Dutchman", we find this system in its infancy. In "Tristan" and "Der Ring des Nibelungen", it is completely developed. The existence of the old set forms of opera was, of course, incompatible with the requirements of this system, and, consequently, Wagner gradually abandoned their use. There are no set trios or quartets in "The Flying Dutchman", while the duets approach closely to the true dramatic duologue. Wagner has been accused of iconoclasm, because of his disuse of the older forms, but his own words on this subject are worthy of attention:

"The plastic unity and simplicity of the mythical subjects allowed of the concentration of the action on certain important and decisive points, and thus enabled me to rest on fewer scenes, with a perseverance sufficient to expound the motive to its ultimate dramatic consequences. The nature of the subject, therefore, could not induce me, in sketching my scenes, to consider in advance their adaptability to any particular musical form, the kind of musical treatment being in each case necessitated by these scenes themselves. It could, therefore, not enter my mind to engraft on this, my musical form, growing, as it did, out of the nature of the scenes, the traditional forms of operatic music, which could not but have marred and interrupted its organic development. I therefore never thought of contemplating on principle, and as a deliberate reformer, the destruction of the aria, duet, and other operatic forms; but the dropping of those forms followed consistently from the nature of my subjects".

Let us see now how Wagner came to discover the germs of his musical system. He tells us that he had done no serious musical work for so long a time that he entered upon the task of composing "The Flying Dutchman" with serious misgivings. "As soon as the piano had arrived", he writes, "my heart beat fast for

very fear; I dreaded to discover that I had ceased to be a musician. I began first with the 'Sailors' Chorus' and the 'Spinning-Song'; everything sped along as though on wings and I shouted for joy as I felt within me that I still was a musician". It was in the ballad of Senta, however, that he found the germs of his future musical system. He uses in this number two themes which are directly associated with fundamental ideas of the drama. The first is commonly spoken of as "The Flying Dutchman" motive. Here it is:



This theme is intended to illustrate the wanderer, as typical of a great yearning for rest. The second theme is this:



This melody is designed to represent the redeeming principle, the sacrificial love of the eternal woman, typified in this drama by Senta. Wagner says, "I had merely to develop, according to their respective tendencies, the various thematic germs comprised in the ballad, to have, as a matter of course, the principal mental moods in definite thematic shapes before me. When a mental mood returned, its thematic expression also, as a matter of course, was repeated, since it would have been arbitrary and capricious to have sought another motive, so long as the object was an intelligible representation of the subject, and not a conglomeration of operatic pieces".

"The Flying Dutchman" thus presents to us in their inception the three fundamental principles upon which Wagner reared his much-abused theory of opera: first, the employment of mythological or legendary subjects for dramatic treatment; second, the "intelligible representation of the subject", by which he meant a faithful musical embodiment of the spirit of each scene, instead of a mere sequence of effective tunes; and third, the use of the representative theme or typical phrase. Out of these elements Wagner fashioned a scheme of operatic construction which contemplated an organic union of poetry, painting, music, and action so compact that no one member of it could be regarded as more important than another. The larger significance of the system has been much obscured by the habit of studying thematic handbooks and supposing that the ability to identify each *Leitmotiv* whenever heard was the solution of the entire artistic problem offered by the later dramas of Wagner. A study of "The Flying Dutchman" and the workings of the master's mind in its composition, shows us very plainly that the only handbook needed for a

complete comprehension of Wagner's music is the text to which it is wedded in a

full and perfect marriage of ideas.

"The Flying Dutchman" has a special interest for lovers of Wagner, because of the strong infusion of personal emotion which colors its score. Ferdinand Praeger, not always a trustworthy authority, indeed, tells one story which there is good reason to believe. He says that he was dining with Wagner in Munich in 1866, when the conversation chanced upon "the weary mariner, his yearning for land and love, and Wagner's own longing for his fatherland at the time he composed the 'Dutchman'". Wagner went to the piano and said: "The pent-up anguish, the homesickness that then held possession of me, were poured out in this phrase":



"At the end of the phrase", continued Wagner, "on the diminished seventh, in my mind I paused and brooded over the past; the repetitions, each higher, interpreting the increased intensity of my sufferings". Because of this personal feeling, the admirer of serious music will do well to seek for the strongest parts of "The Flying Dutchman" in the embodiment of the deeper emotions voiced by the text. The march-movement at the end of the first act, the sailors' choruses and the spinning-song, are in the most popular vein, and make the strongest appeal to those who like merely pretty tunes; but the storm-music, the Dutchman's narrative, and the duo of Vanderdecken and Senta, contain the choicest outpourings of the spirit of the young man of 28, who was to become the regenerator of the true music-drama.

W. J. HENDERSON.

# Der fliegende Holländer.

THE FLYING DUTCHMAN.

#### Nº 1. Overture.

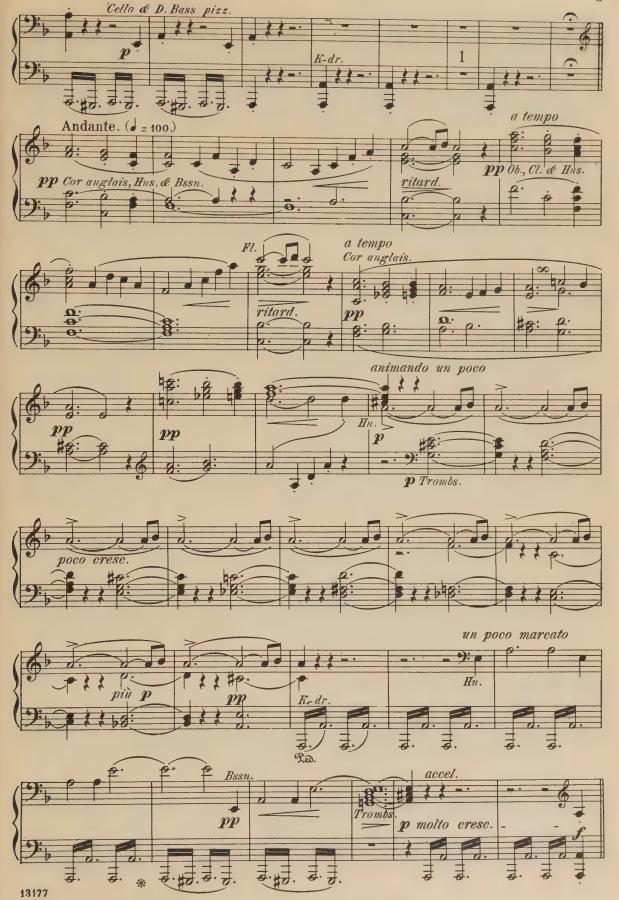
Piccolo, Flutes, Oboes, Clarinets in B flat, Cor anglais, Bassoons, 4 Horns in F & D, Trumpets in F, 3 Trombones, Tuba, Kettle-drums in D & A, Harp, & Strings.



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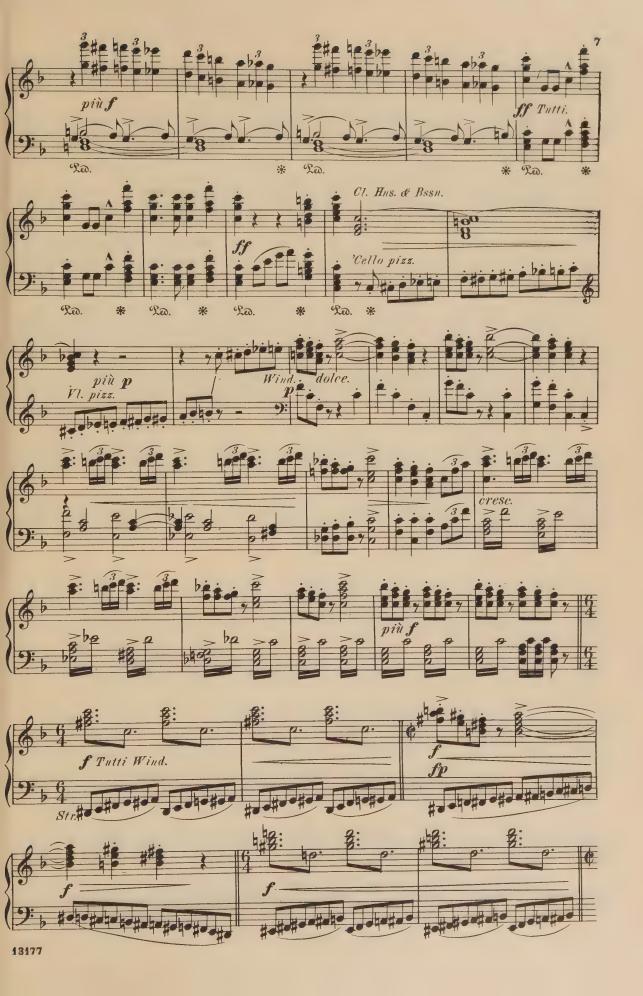


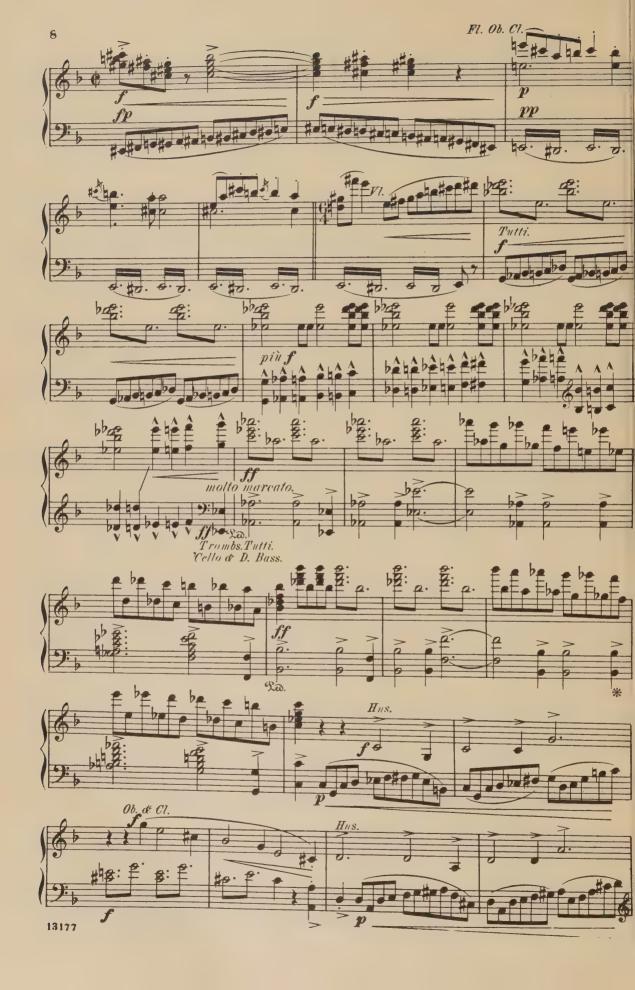




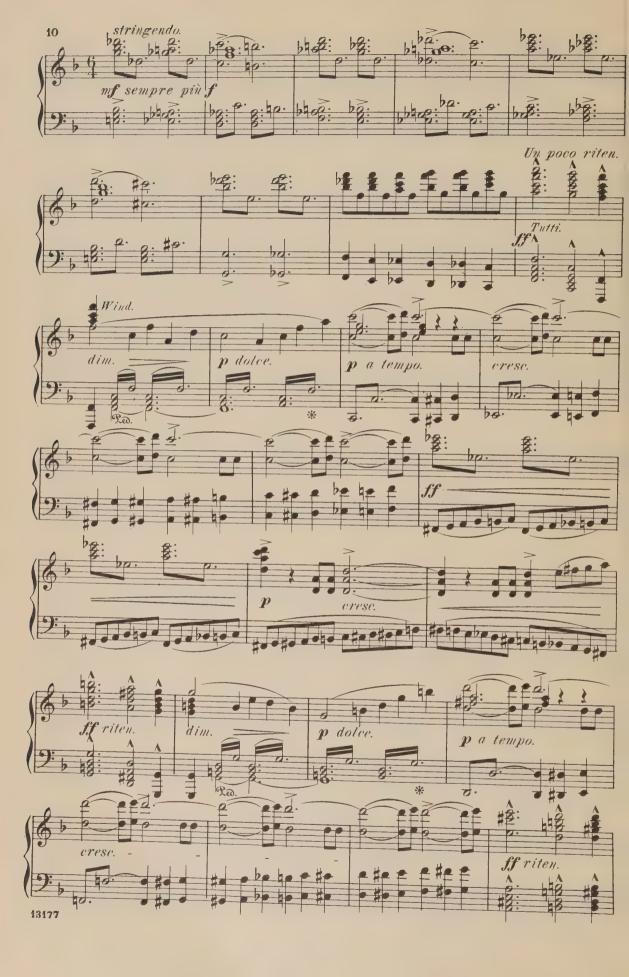


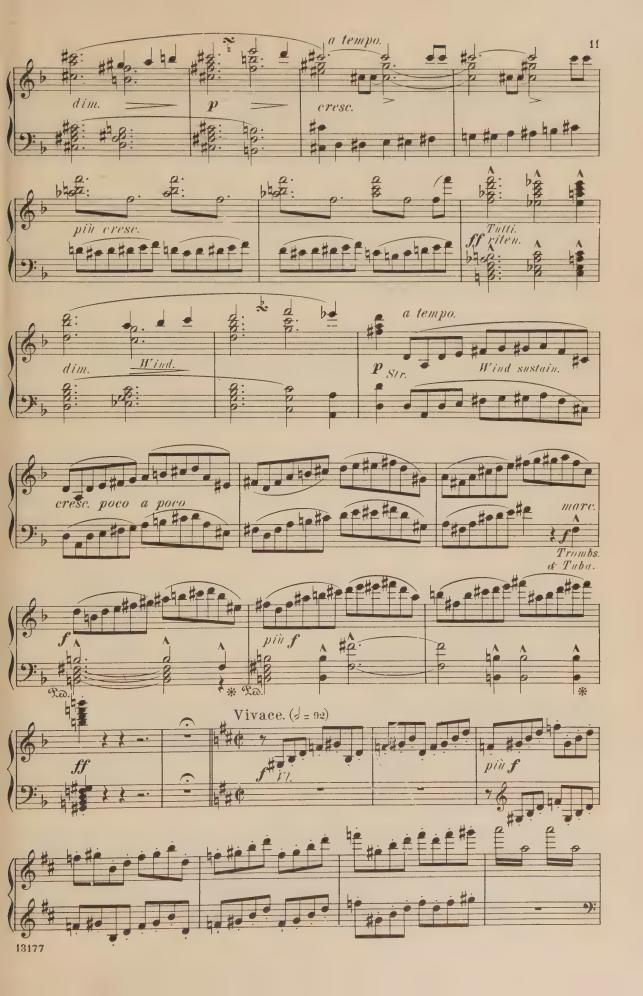


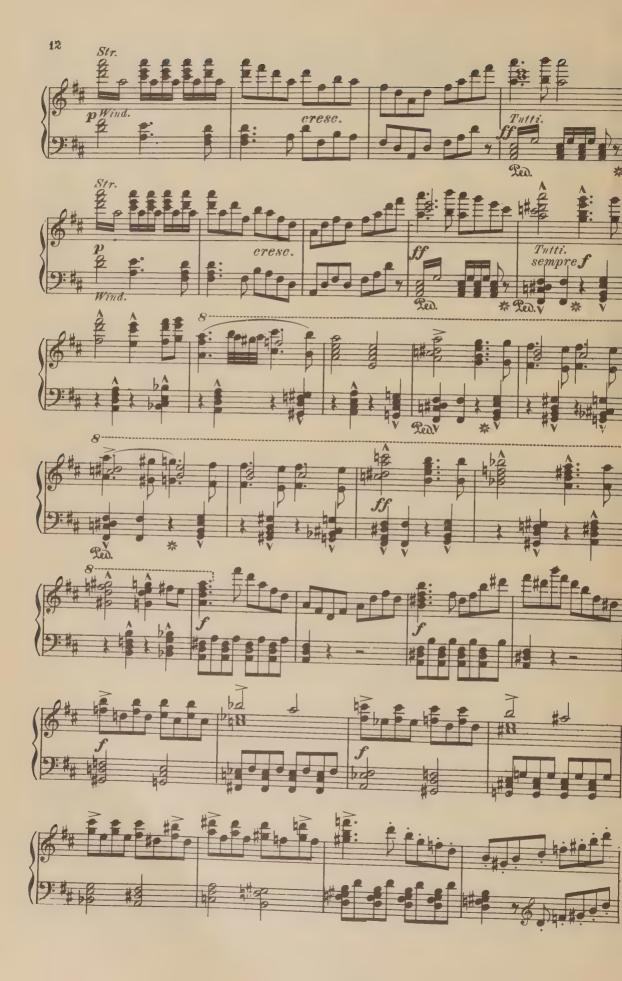












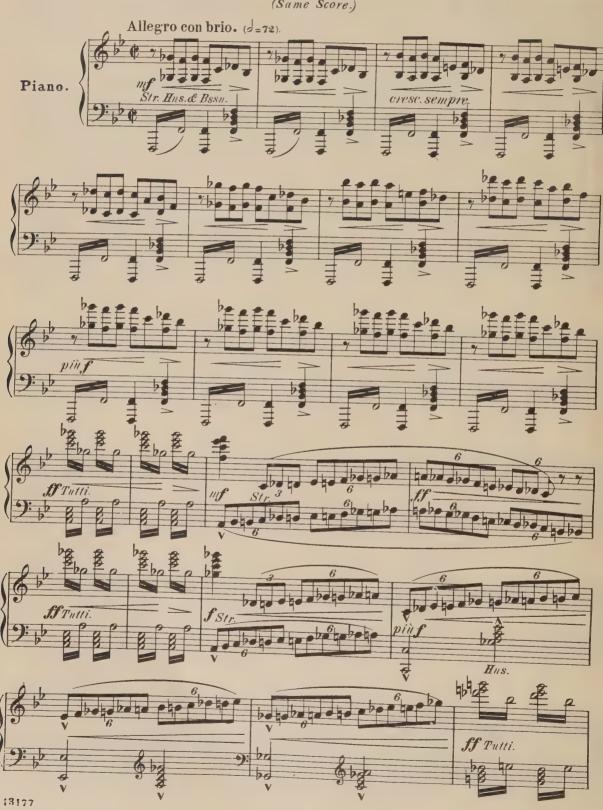


#### Act I.

#### Nº 2. Introduction.

A steep, rocky shore. The sea occupies the greater part of the scene, and there is a wide view over it. Gloomy weather. A violent storm. Dalands ship has just cast anchor close to the shore; the sailors are noisily employed in furling the sails, coiling ropes, etc. Daland has gone on shore. He climbs upon a rock and surveys the country, to find out in what place they are.

(Same Score.)



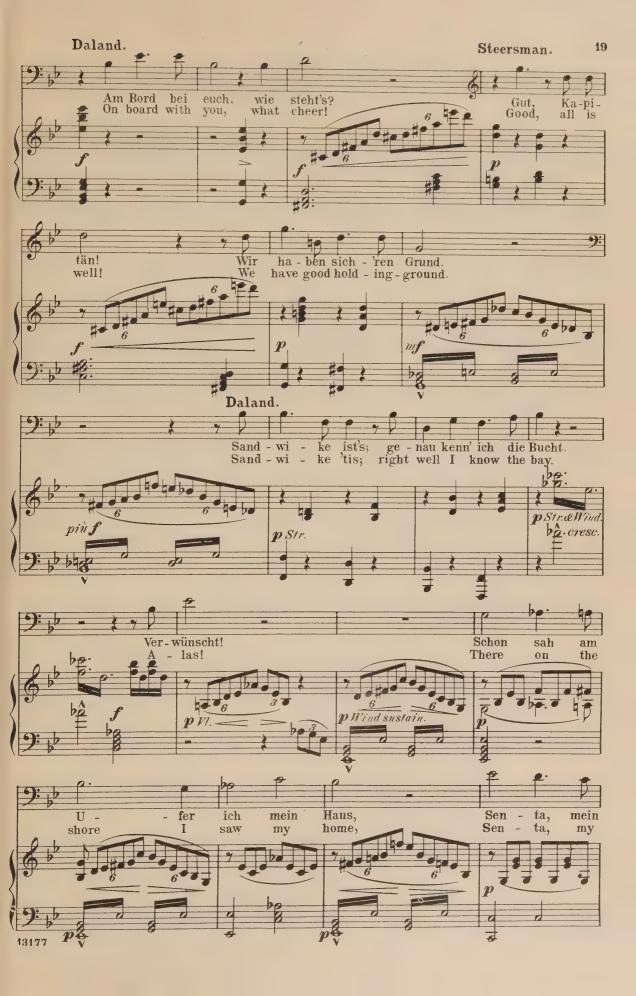






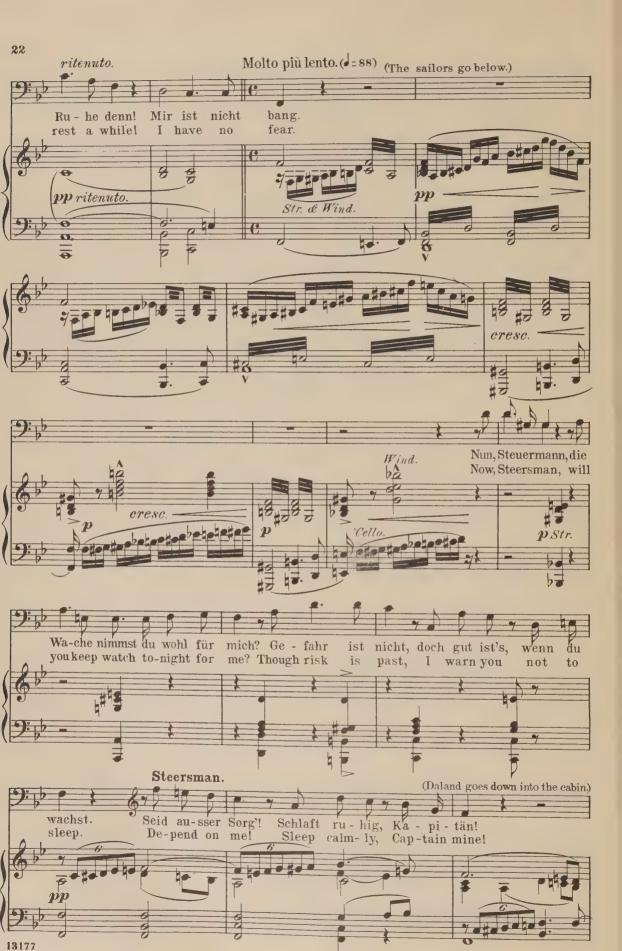












(The Steersman alone on deck. The storm has somewhat subsided, and returns only at intervals; out at sea the waves are tossing high. The Steersman walks round the deck once, and then sits down near the wheel.)

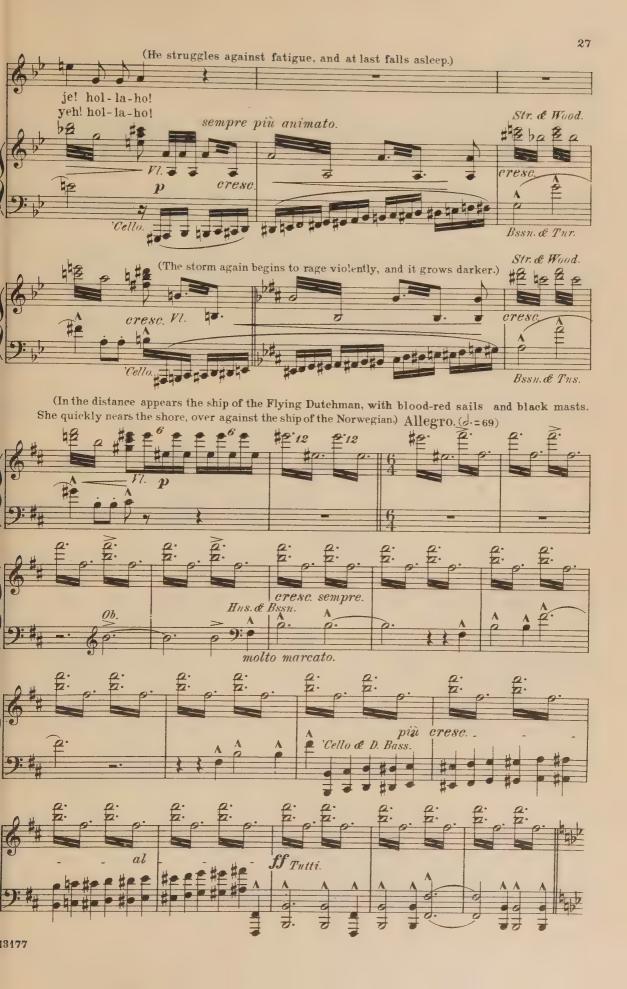














## Nº 3. "How oft, in Ocean's deepest cave." Aria.

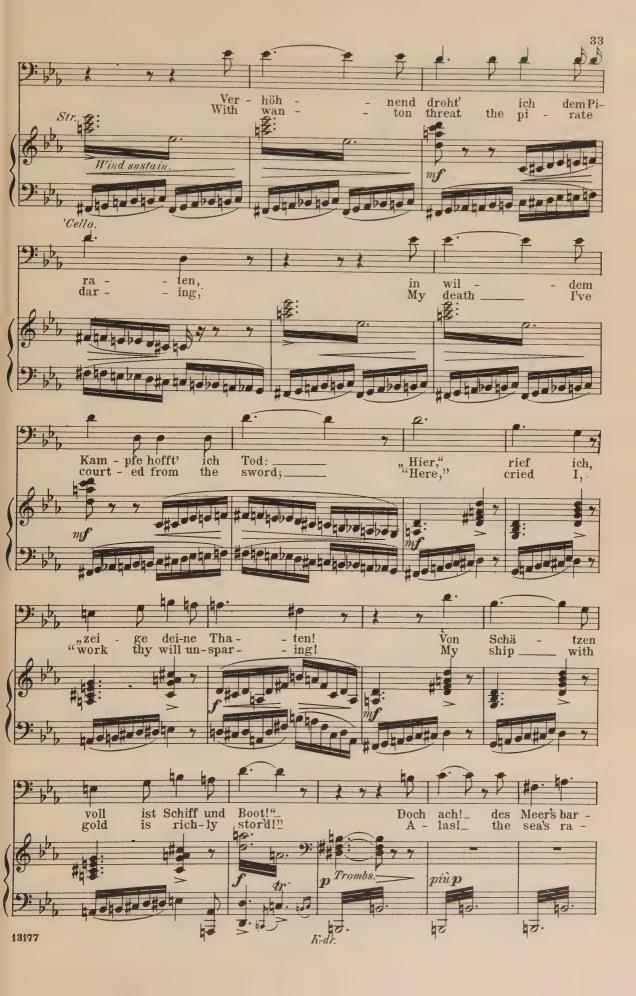


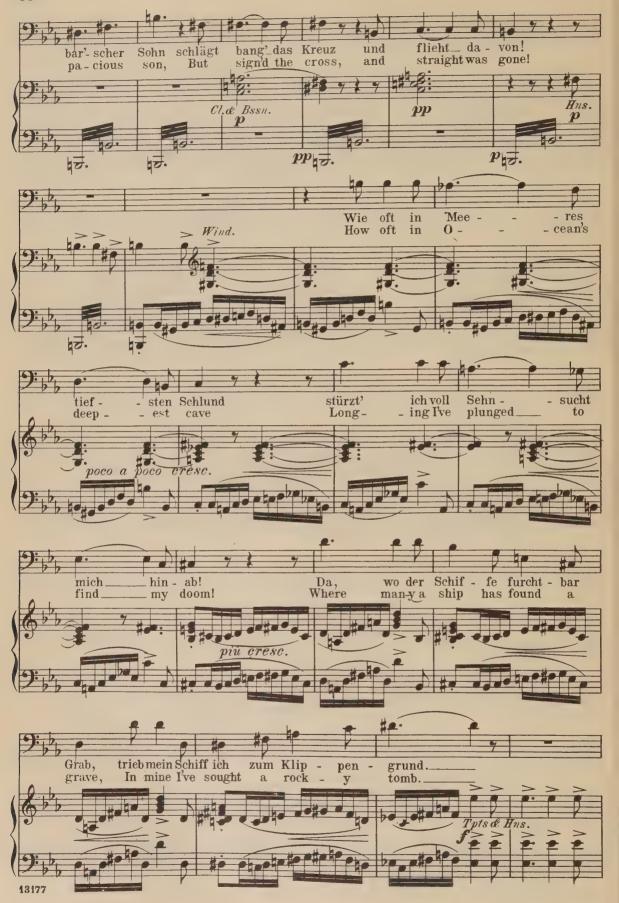






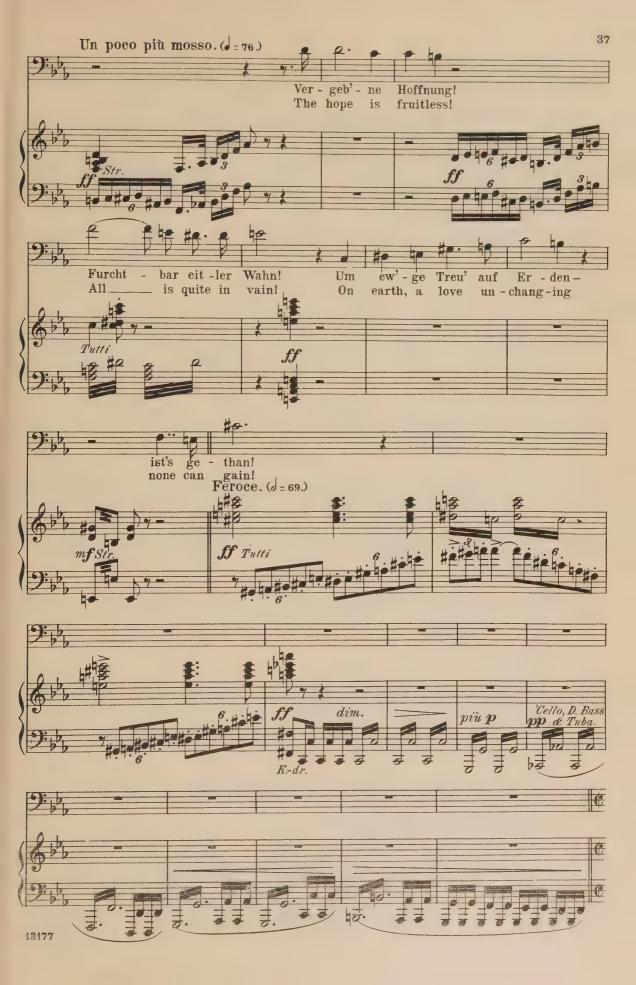












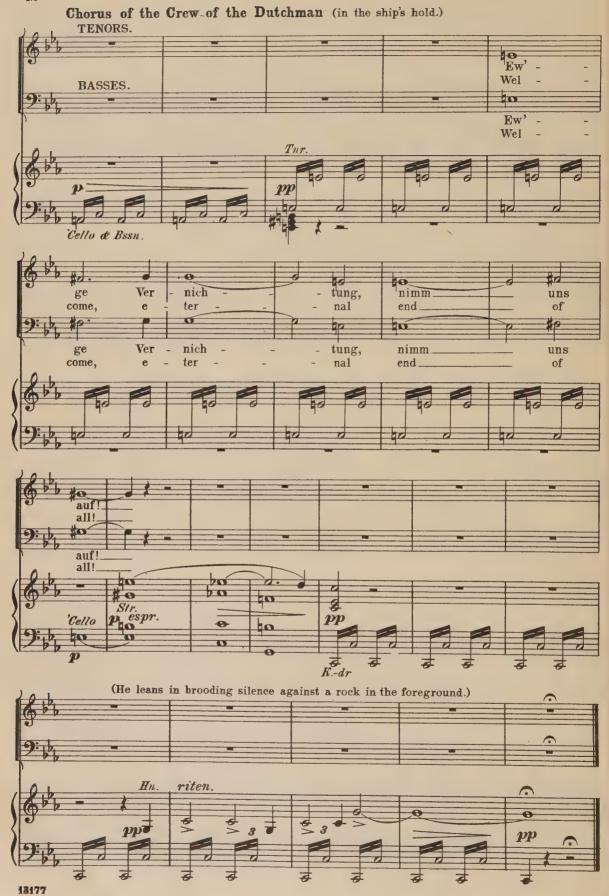




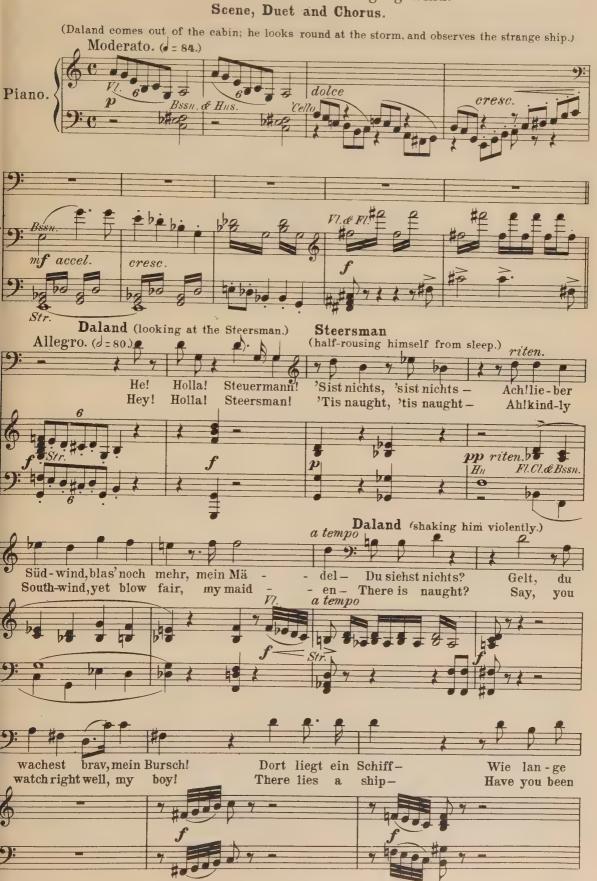


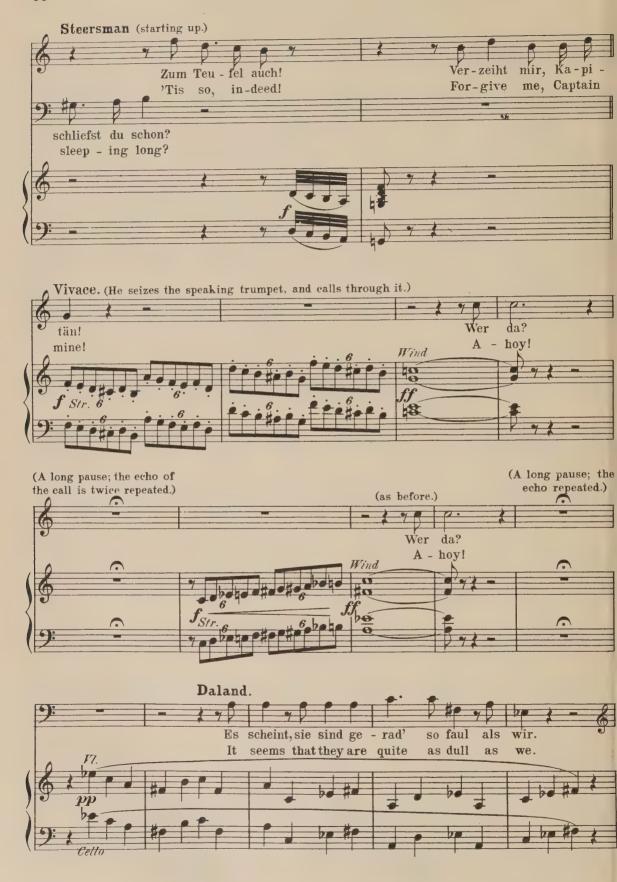






## No 4. "Where storm and raging wind." Scene, Duet and Chorus.





















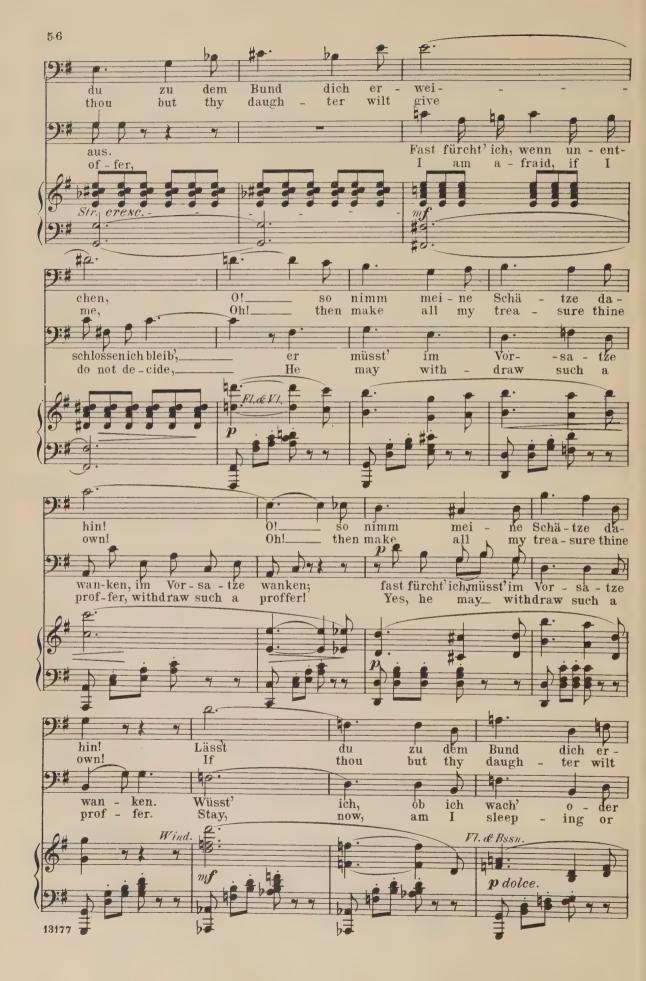






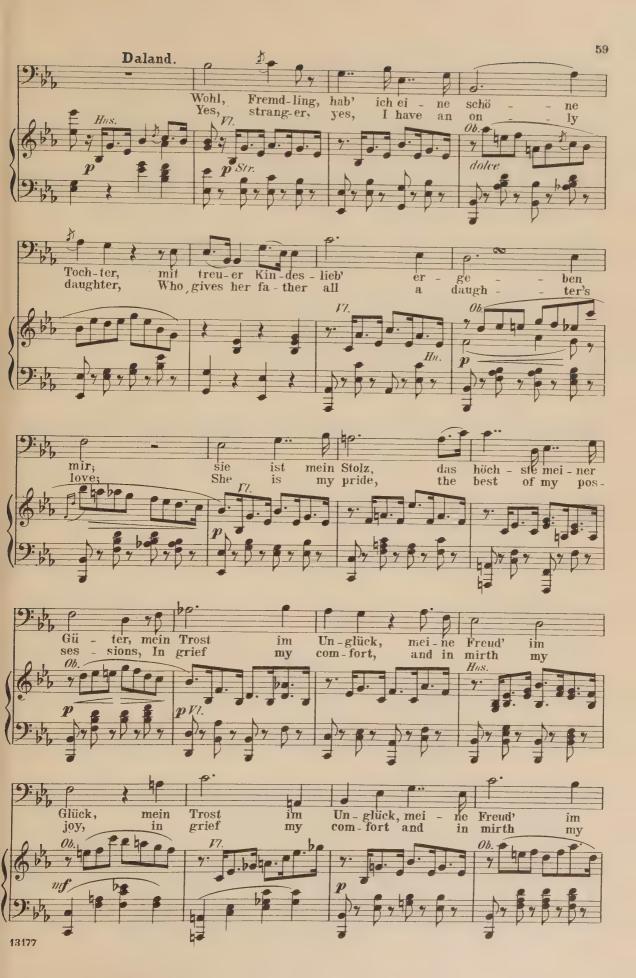


















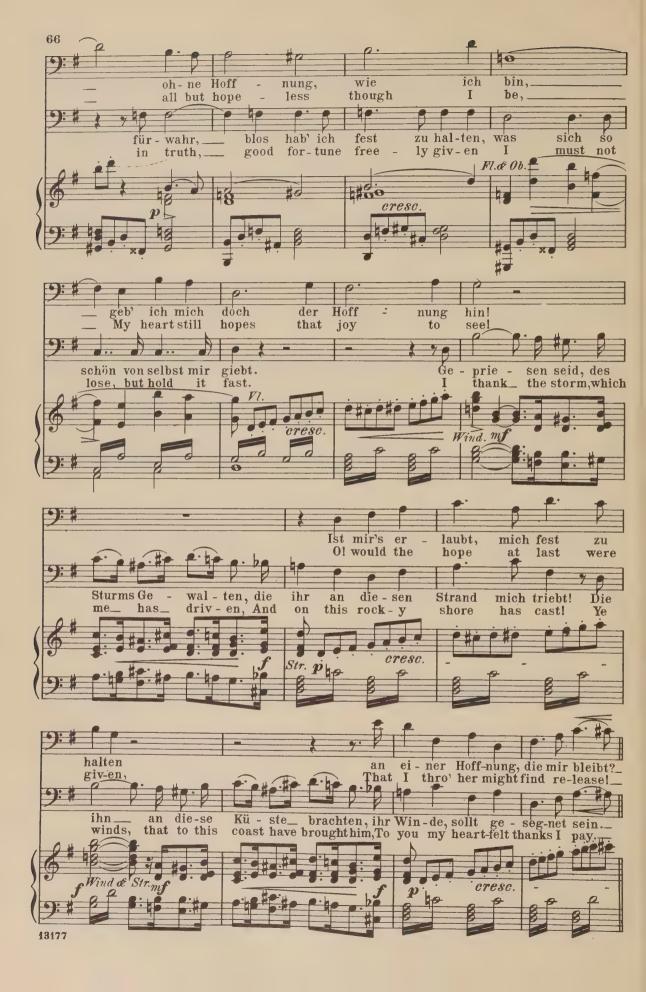










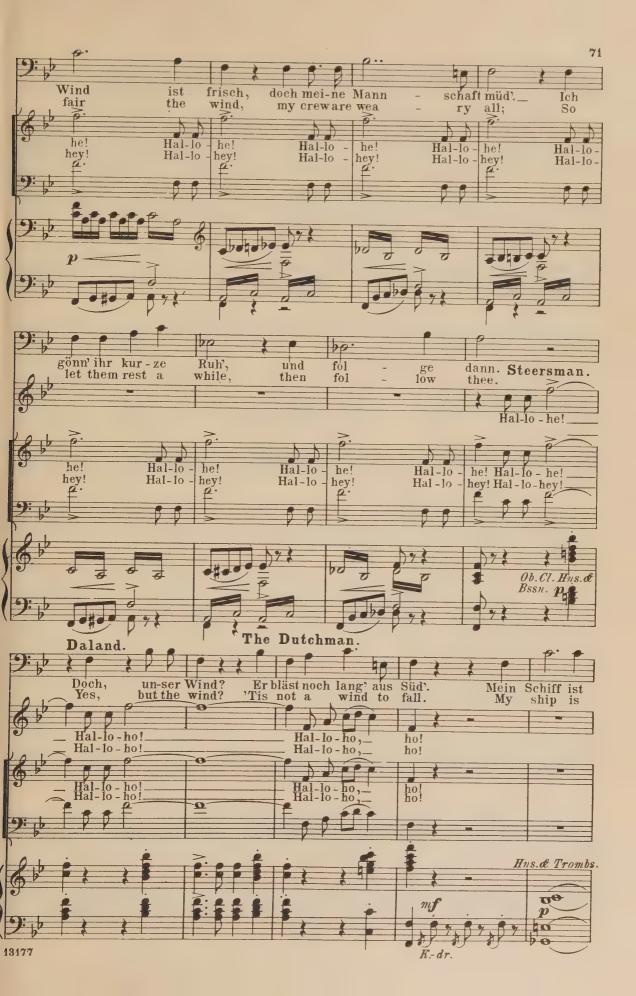












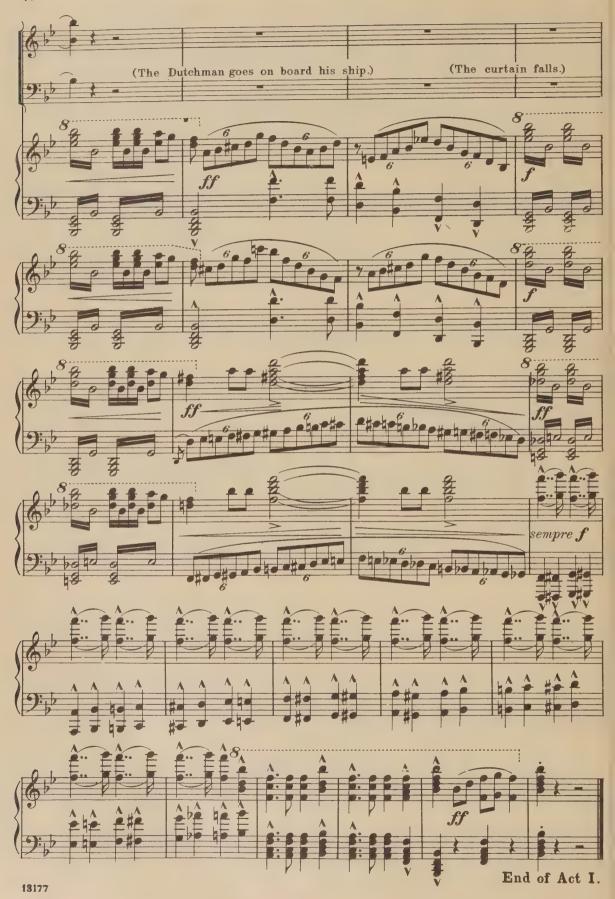




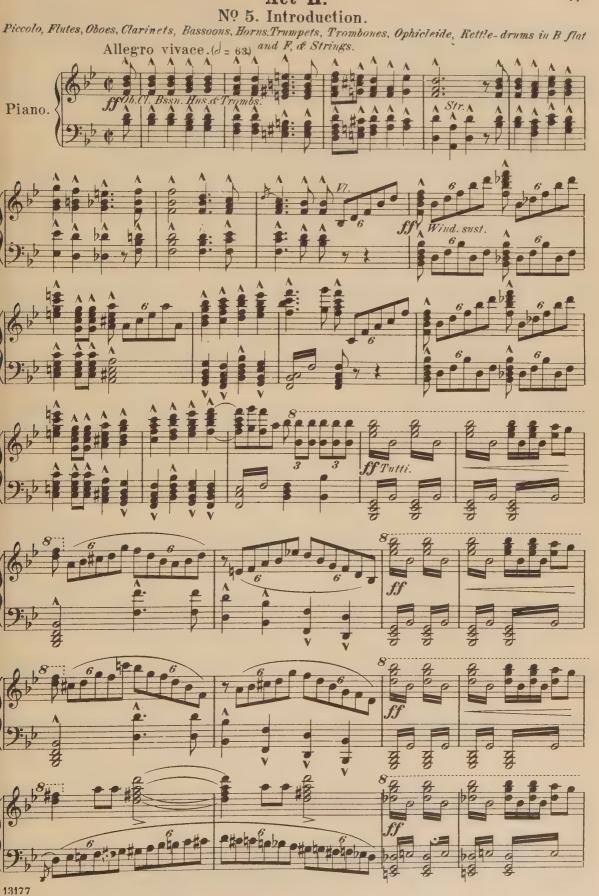


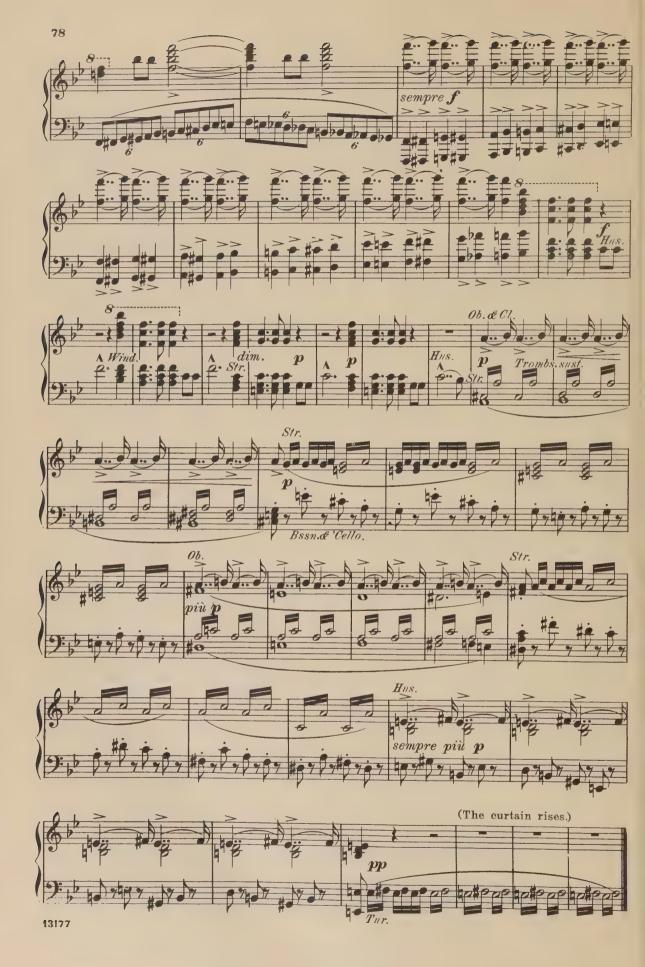






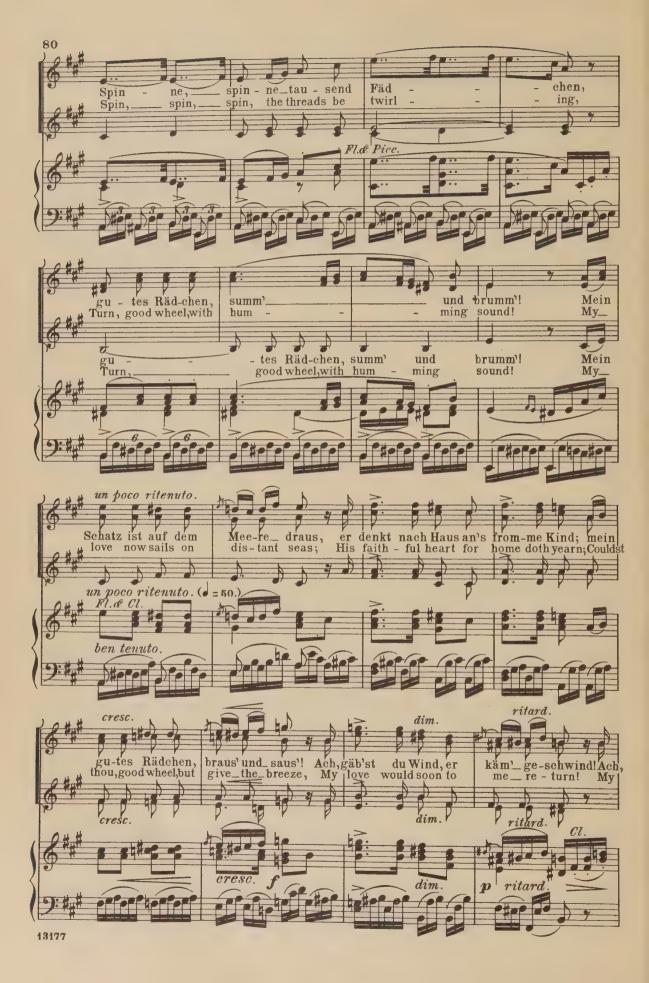
## Act II.





(A large room in Daland's house; on the side-walls pictures of sea-subjects, charts, &c.; on the further wall the portrait of a pale man, with a dark beard, in black Spanish garb. Mary and the maidens are sitting about the fireplace, and spinning. Senta, leaning back in an arm-chair, is absorbed in dreamy contemplation of the portrait on the further wall.)





















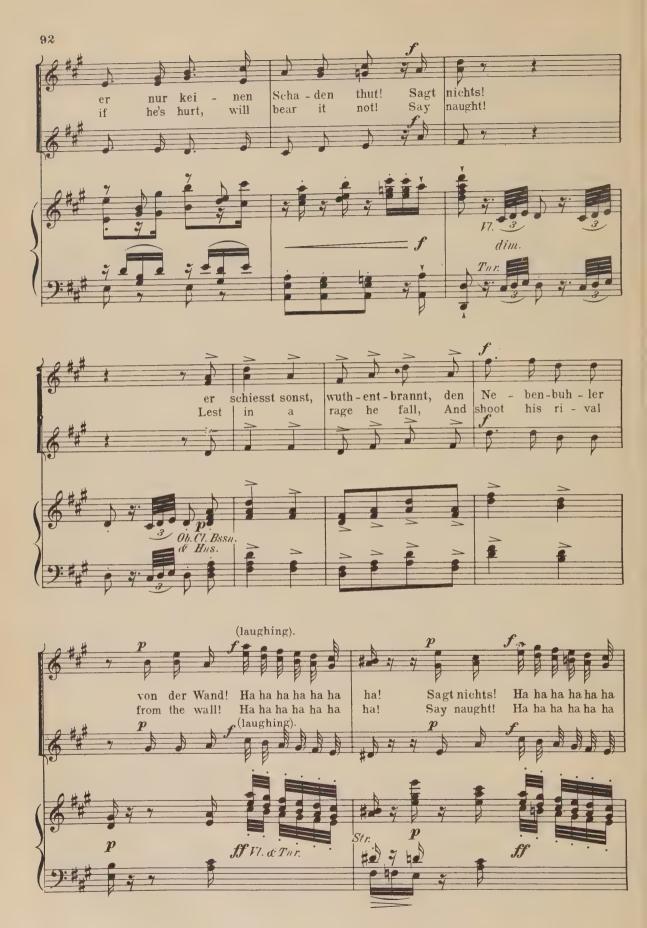












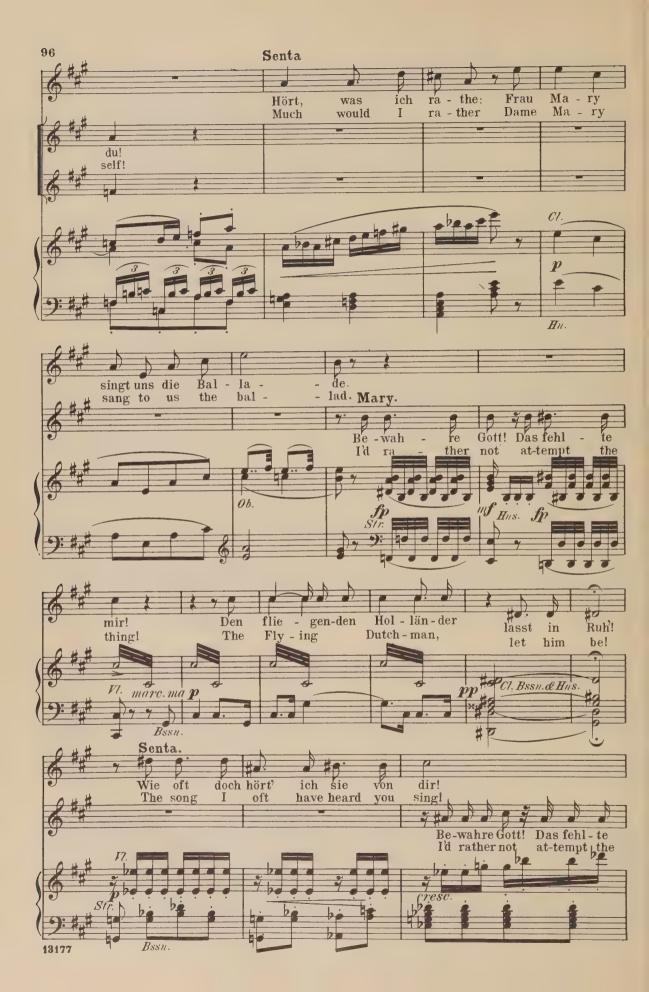




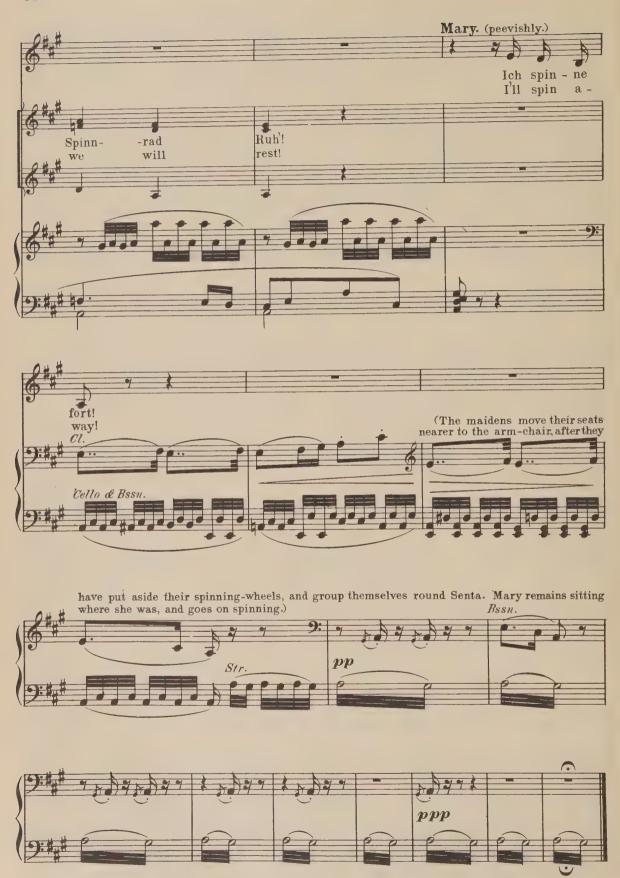




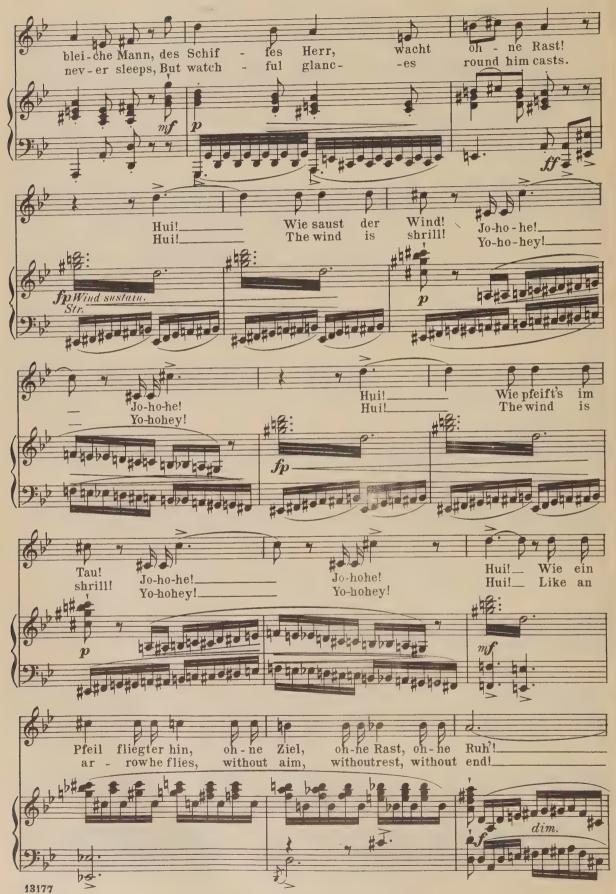














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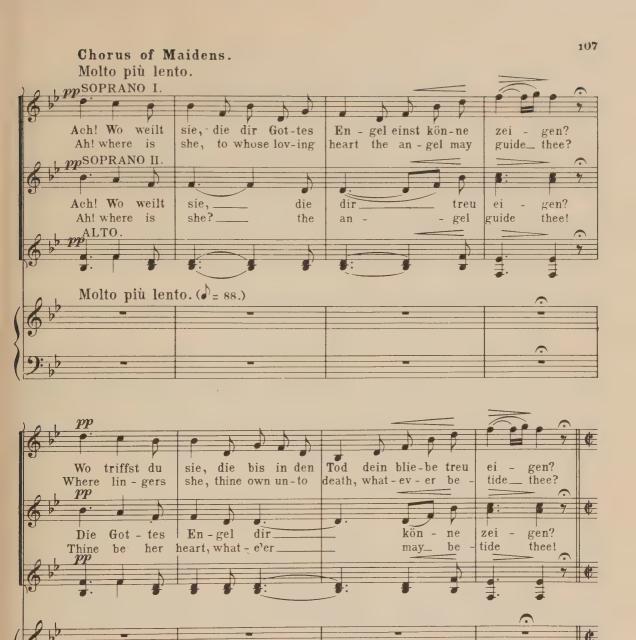


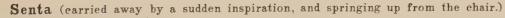
































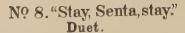
































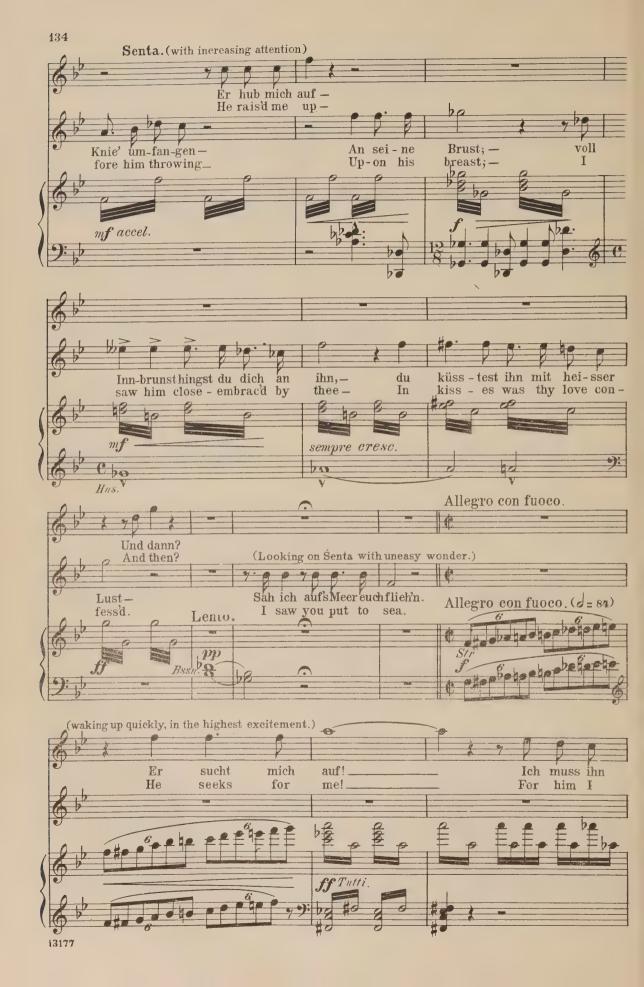


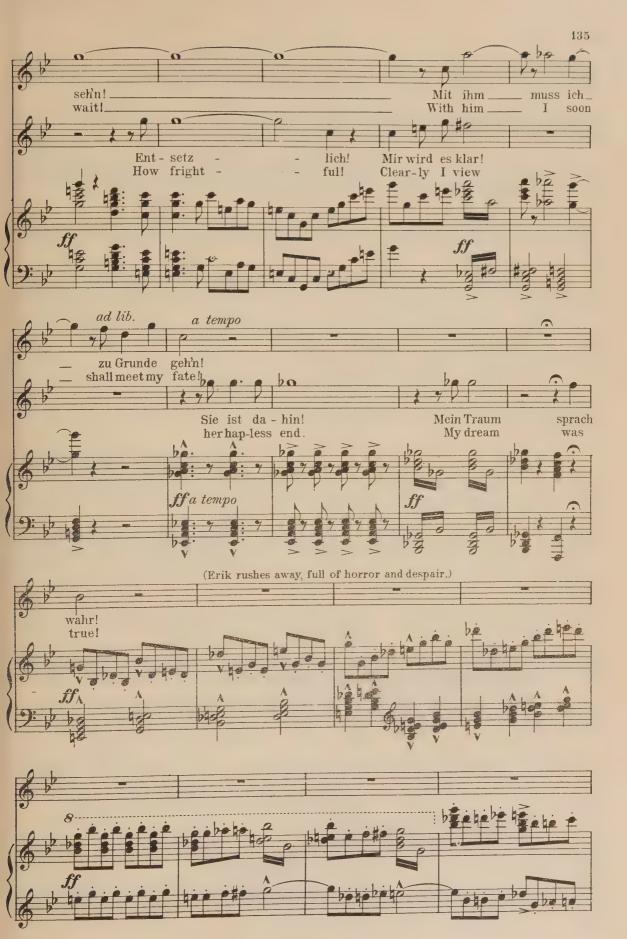








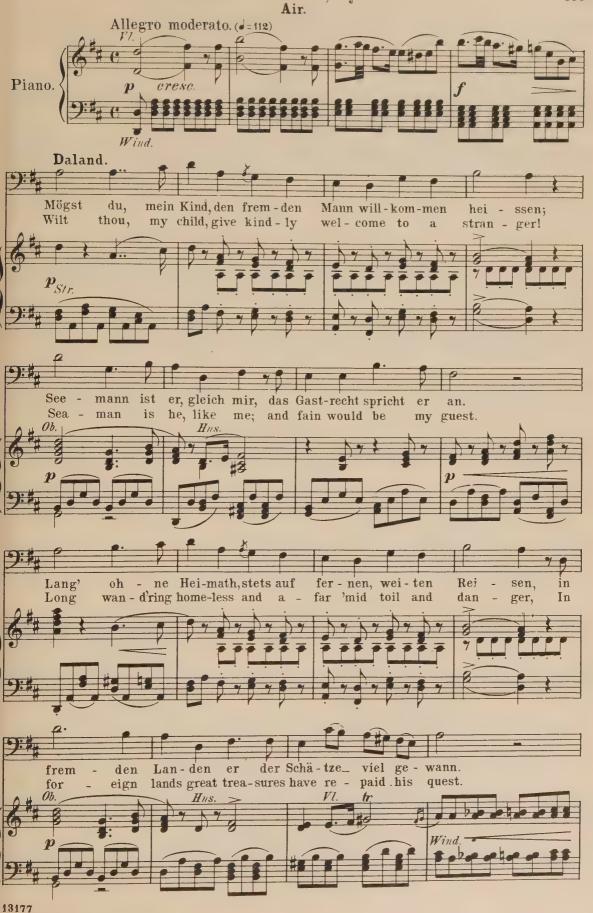












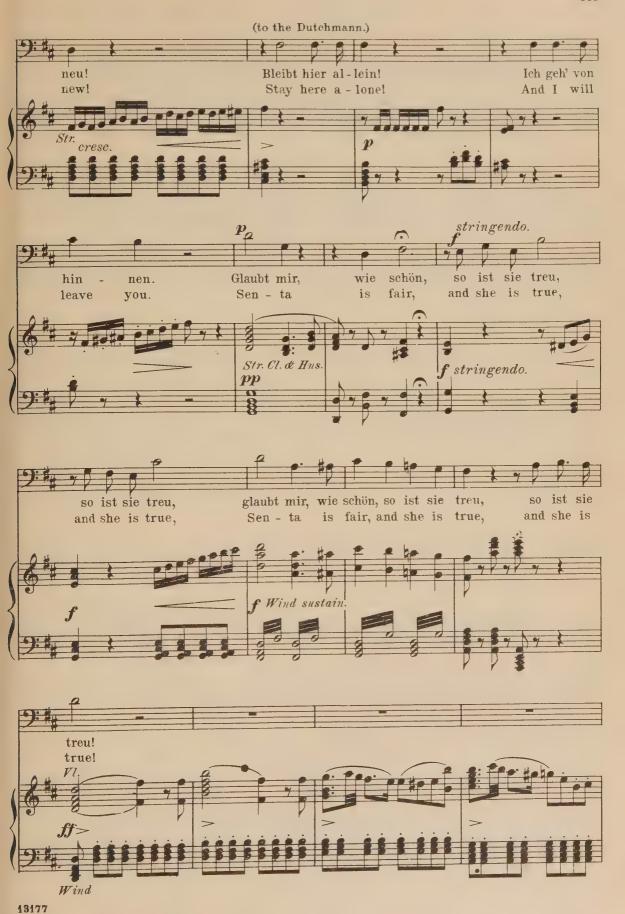












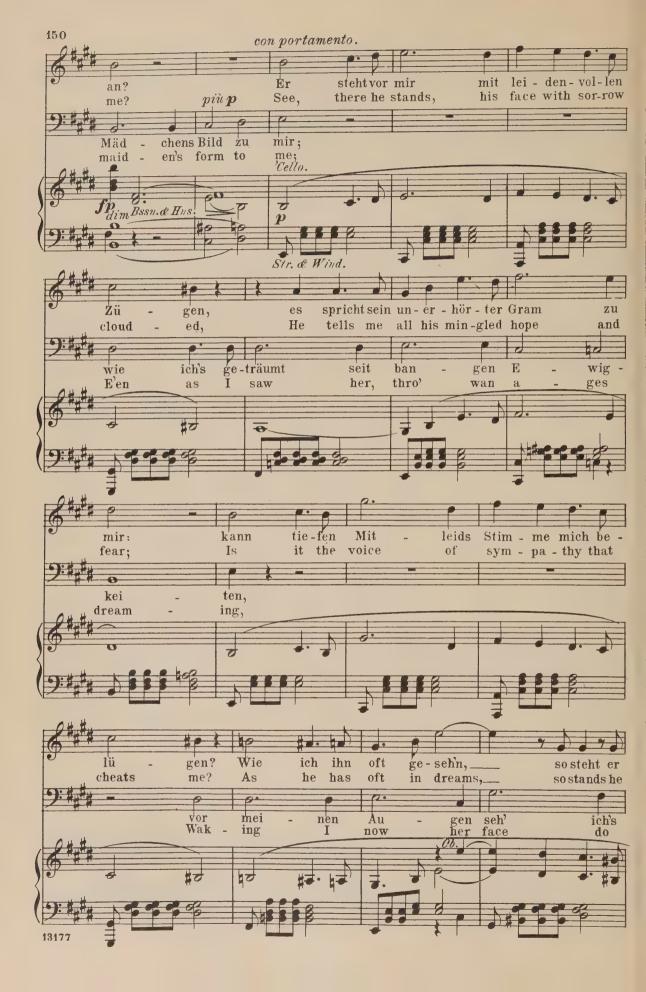


## No. 11. As from the far-off past Duet and Terzetto.



















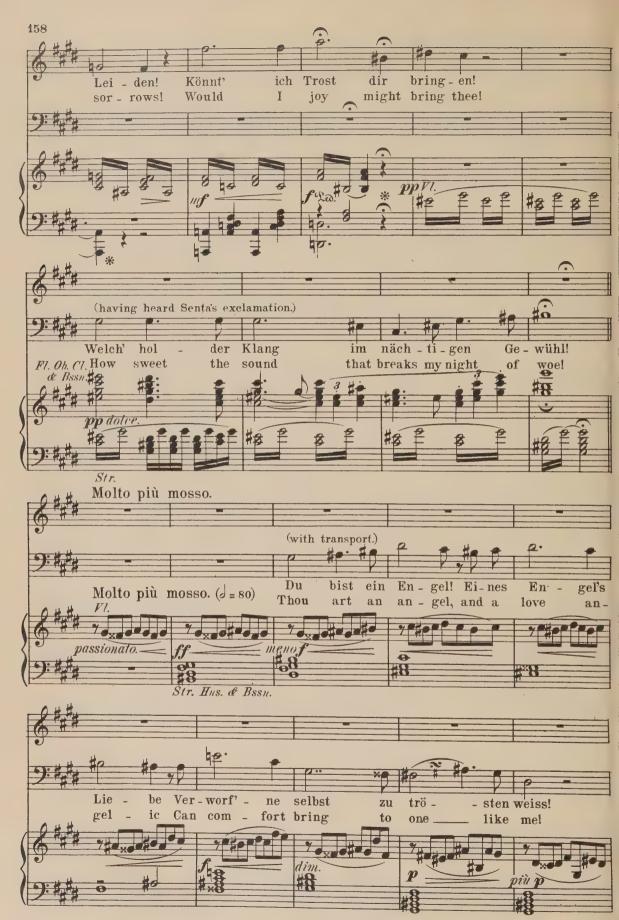








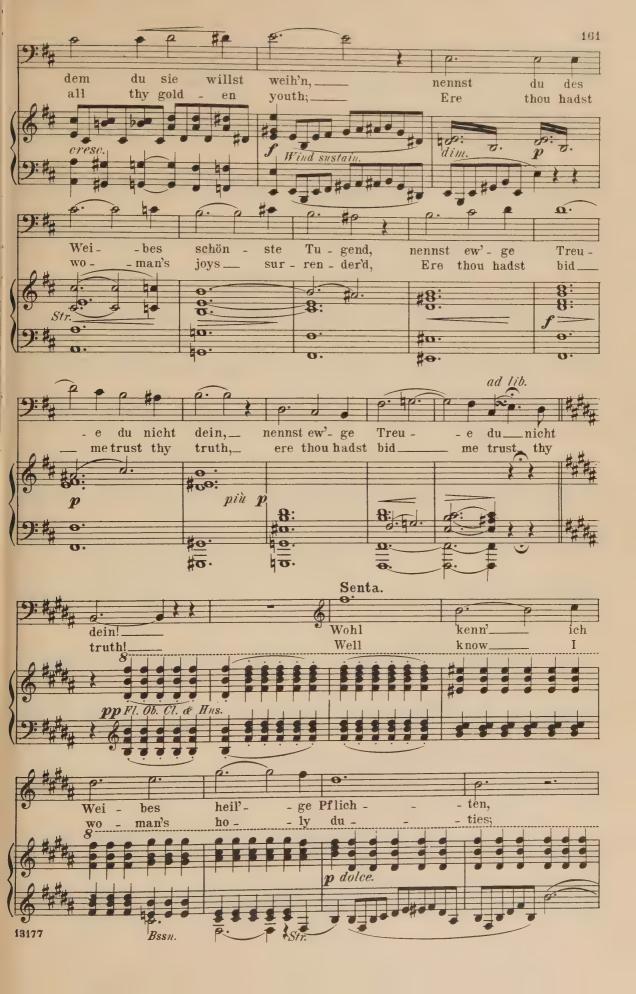


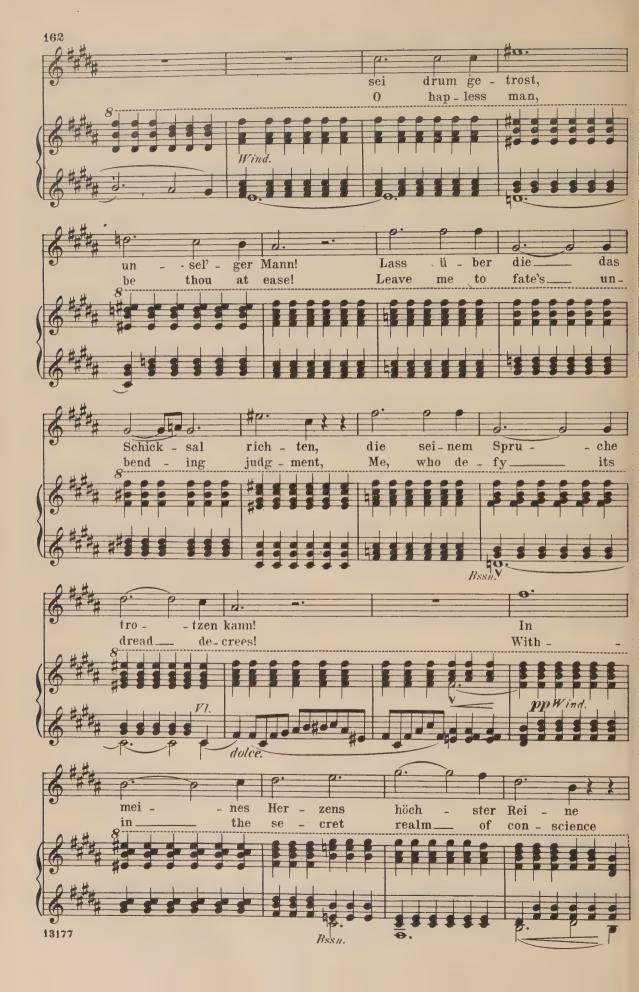


















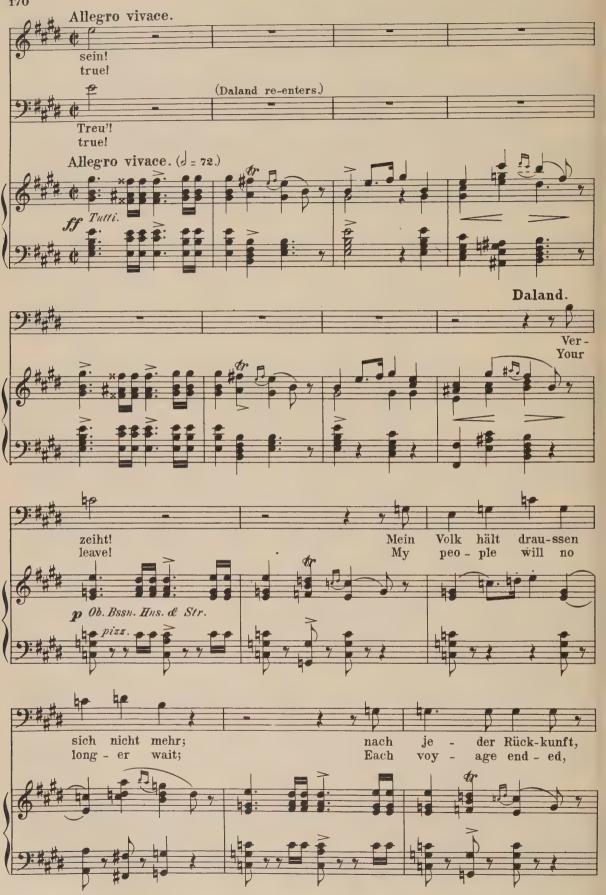


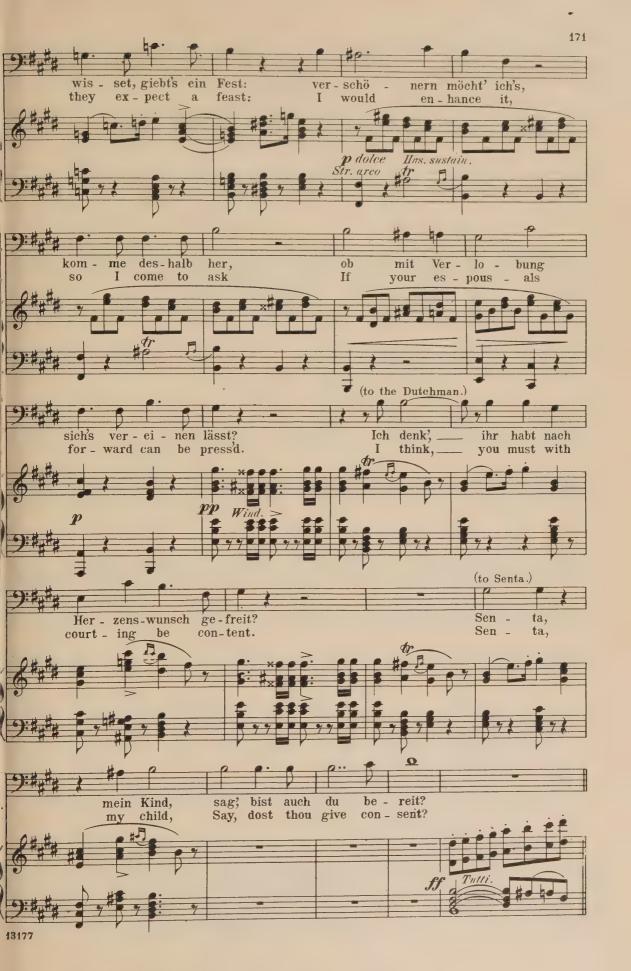


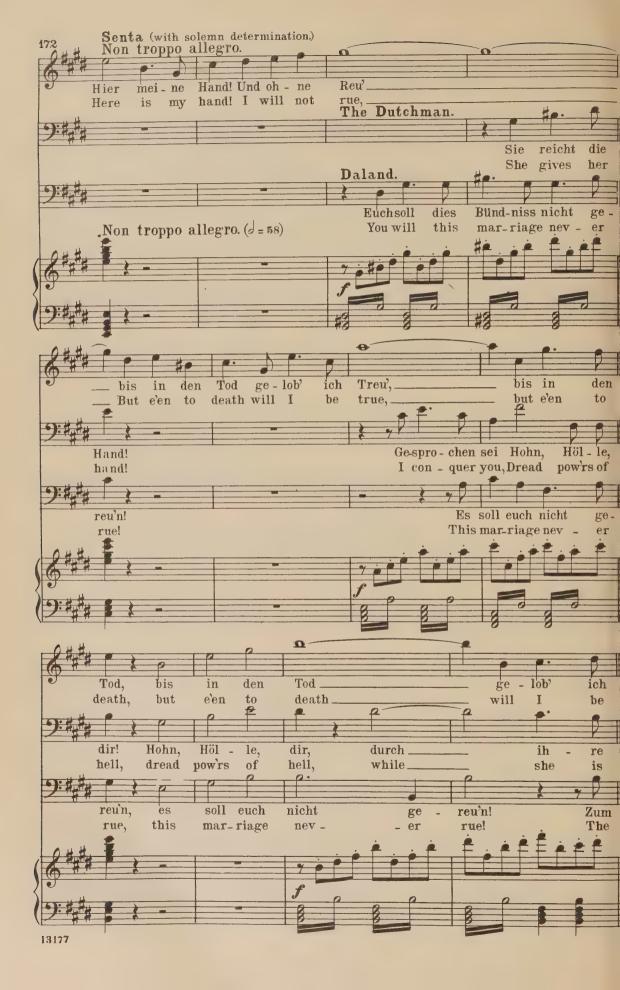


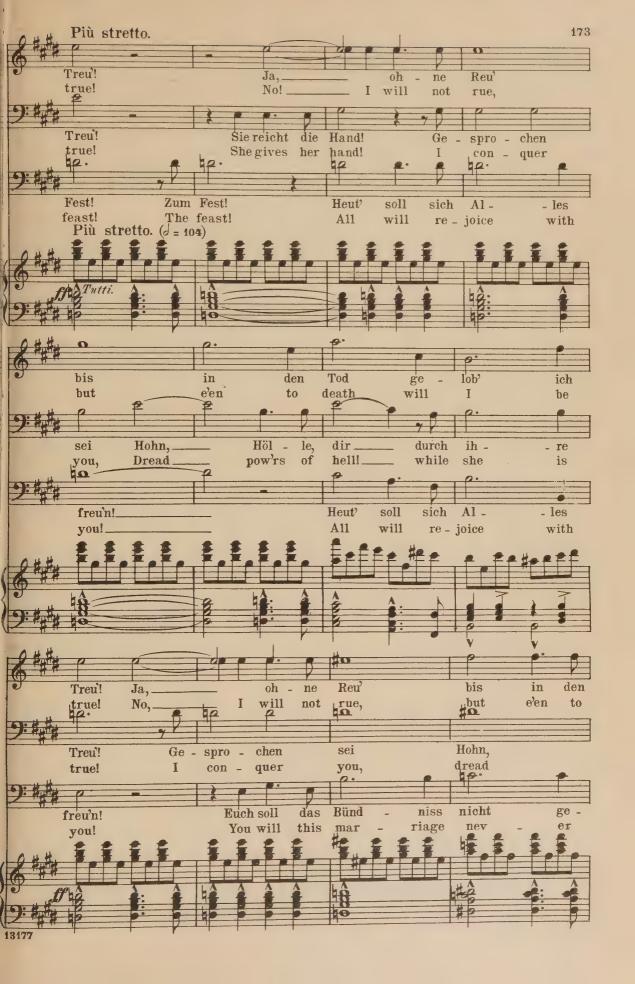


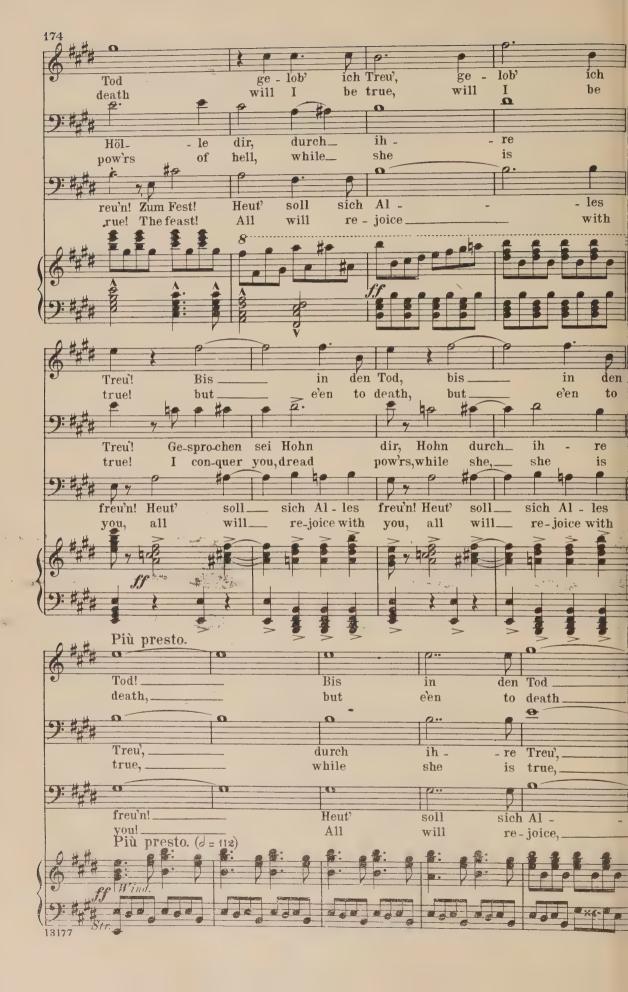










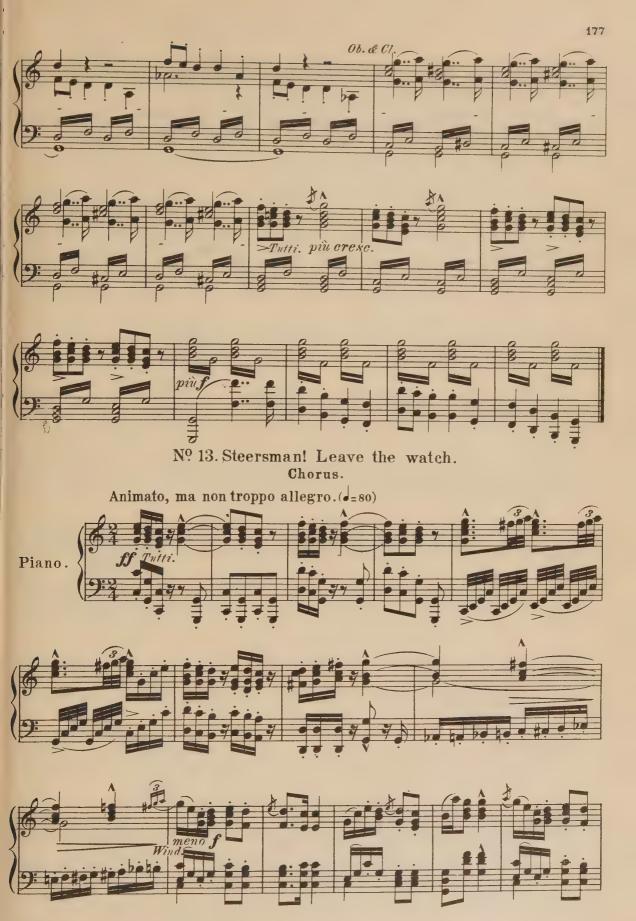






Act III.
Nº 12. Introduction.



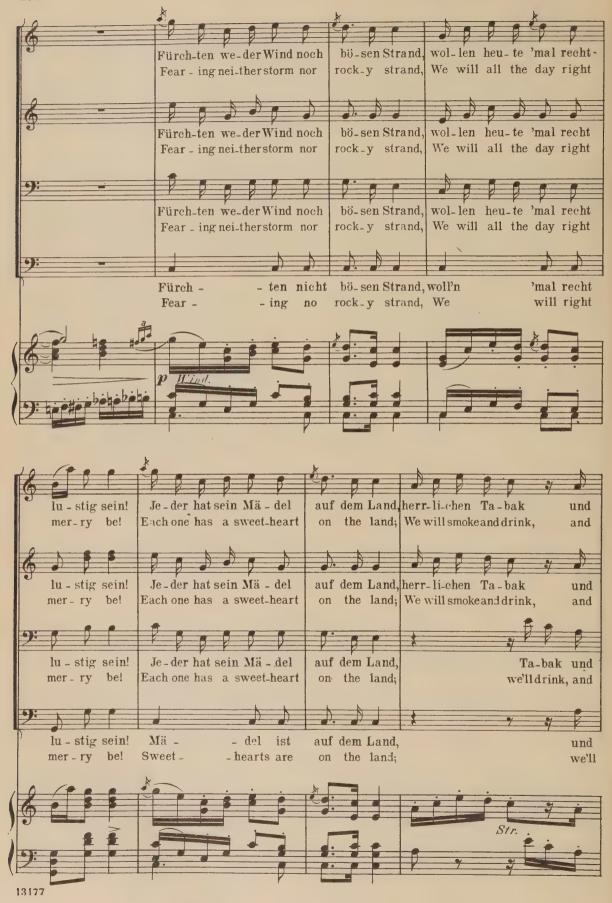


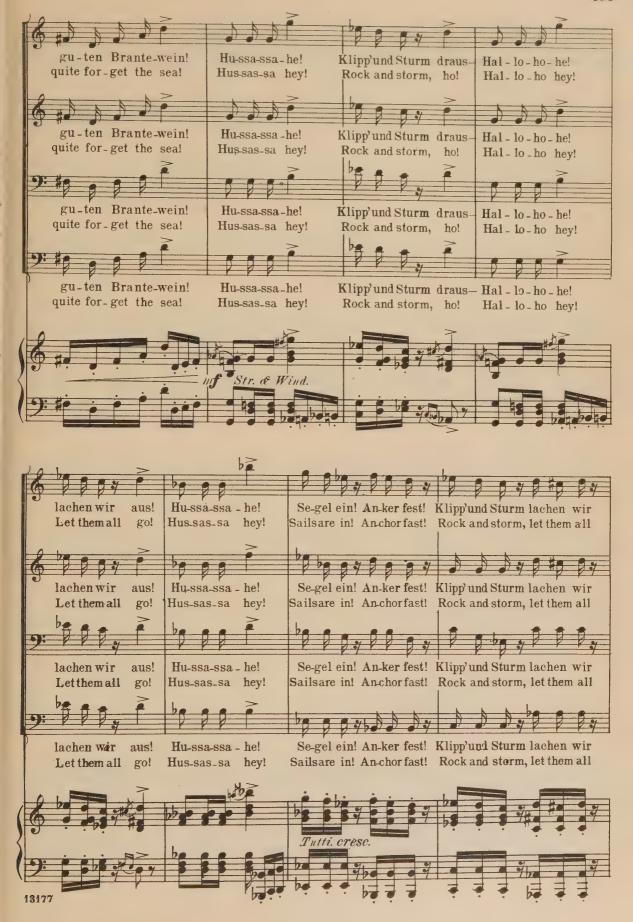


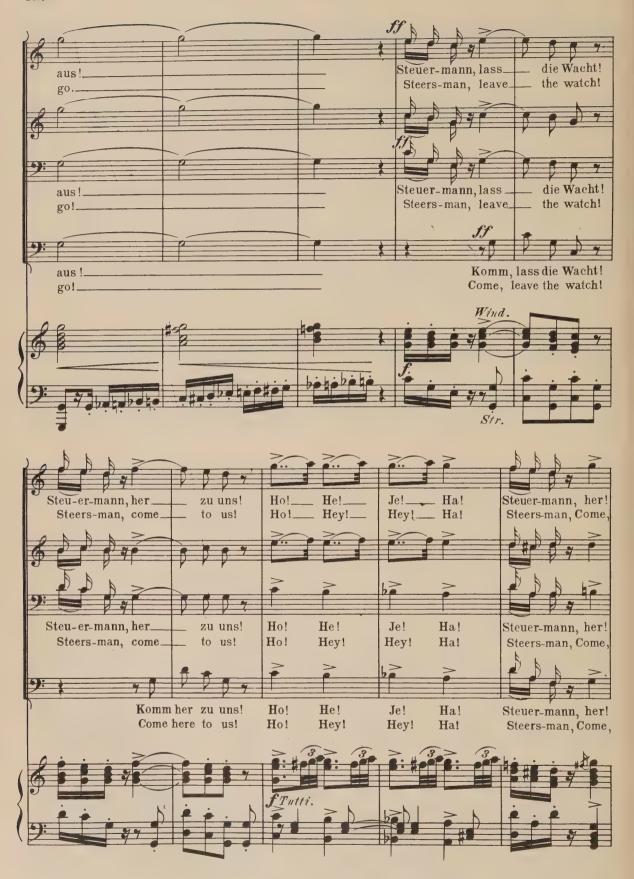
(A bay with rocky shore. On one side, Daland's house in the foreground. The background is occupied by the two ships, Daland's and the Dutchman's, lying near one another. The night is clear. The Norwegian ship is lighted up; the sailors are making merry upon the deck. The appearance of the Dutch ship presents a strange contrast; an unnatural darkness overspreads it; the stillness of death reigns over it.)

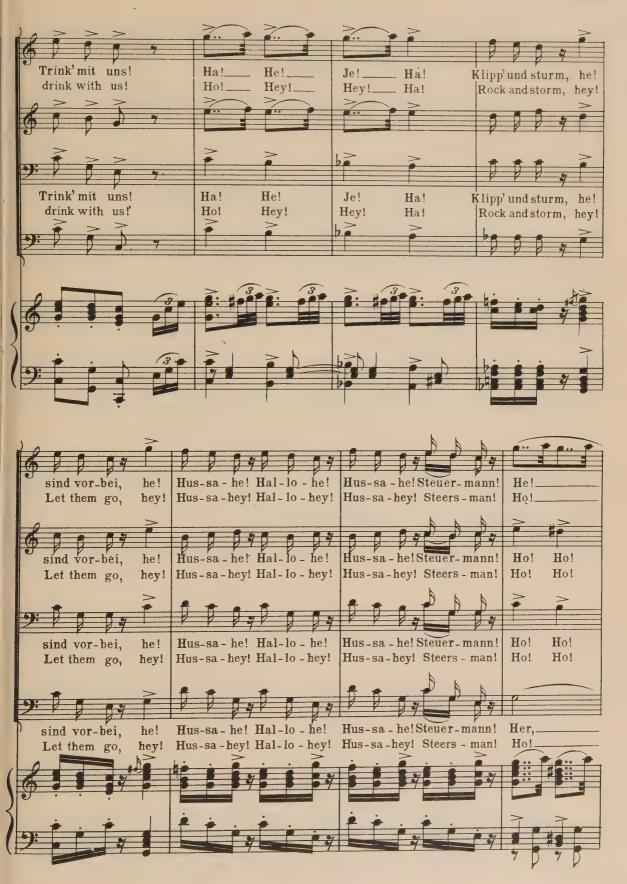




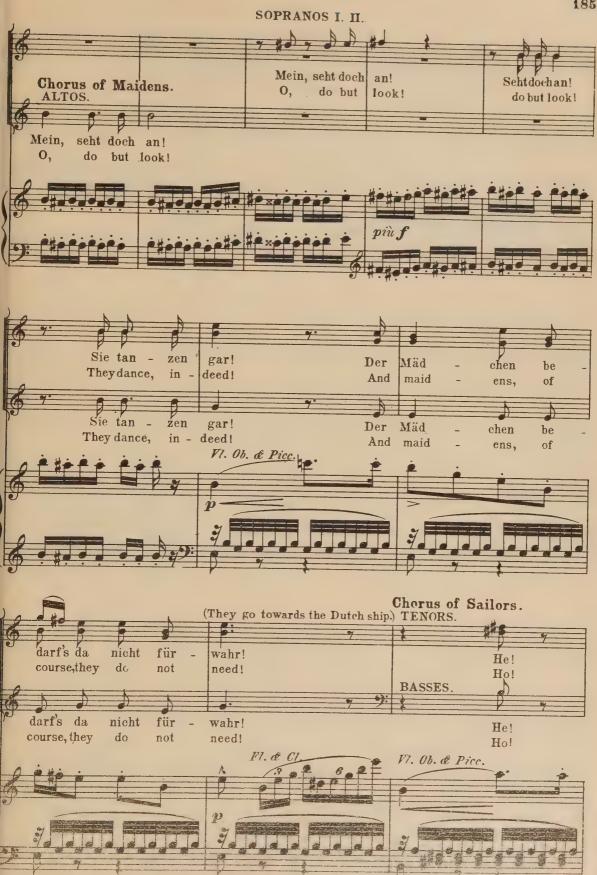


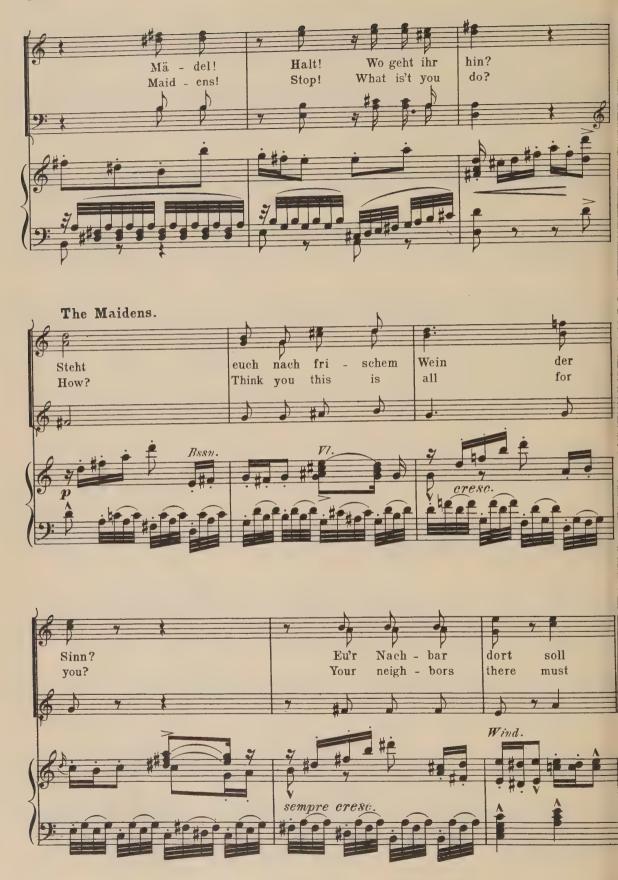














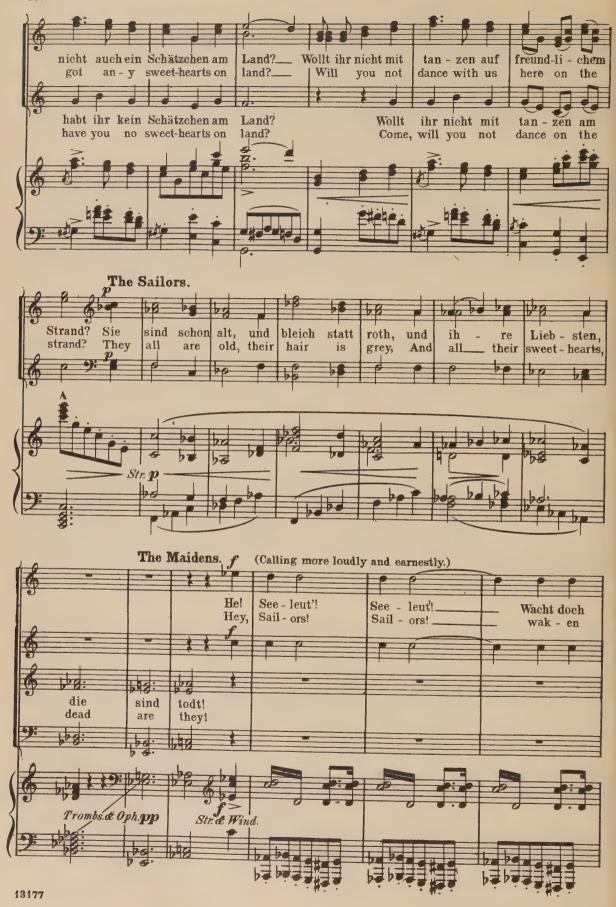


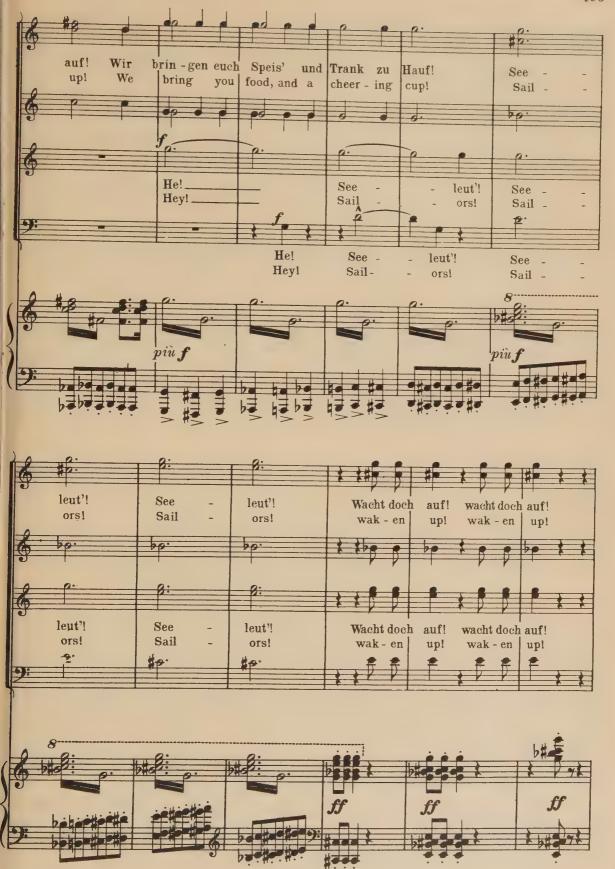




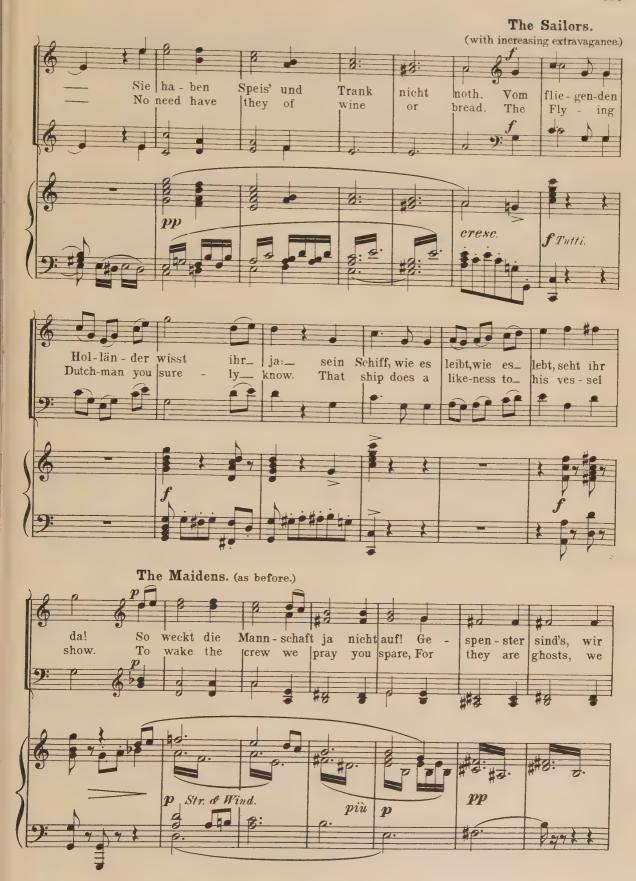


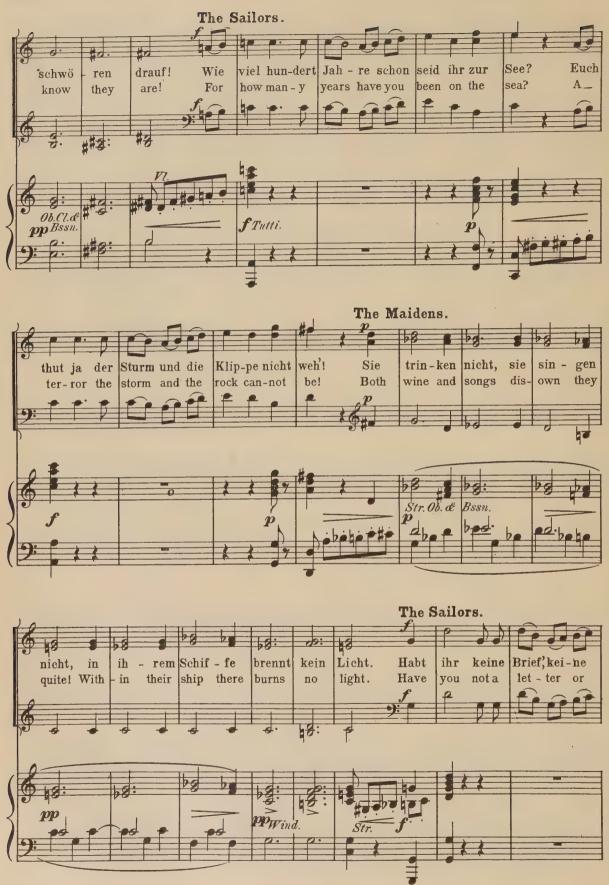






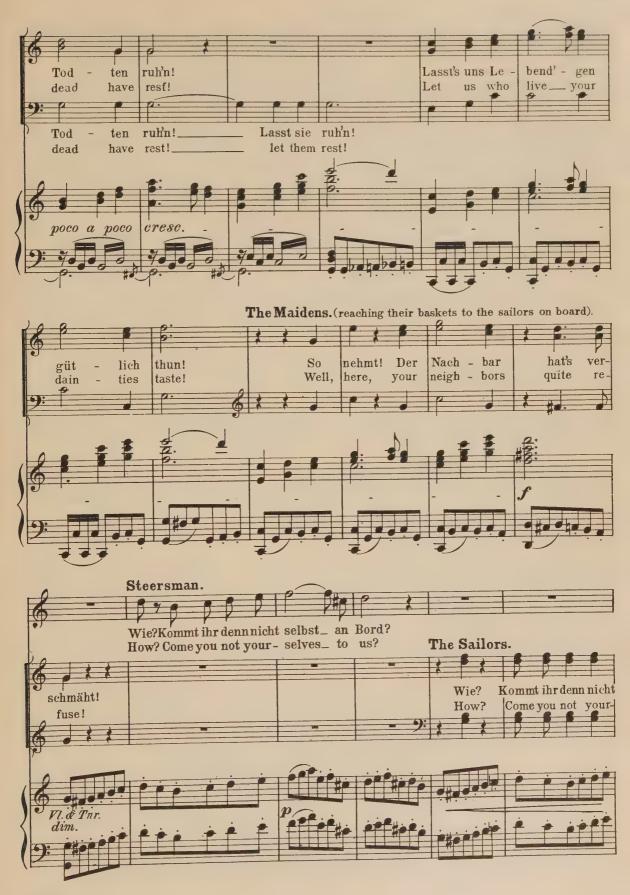


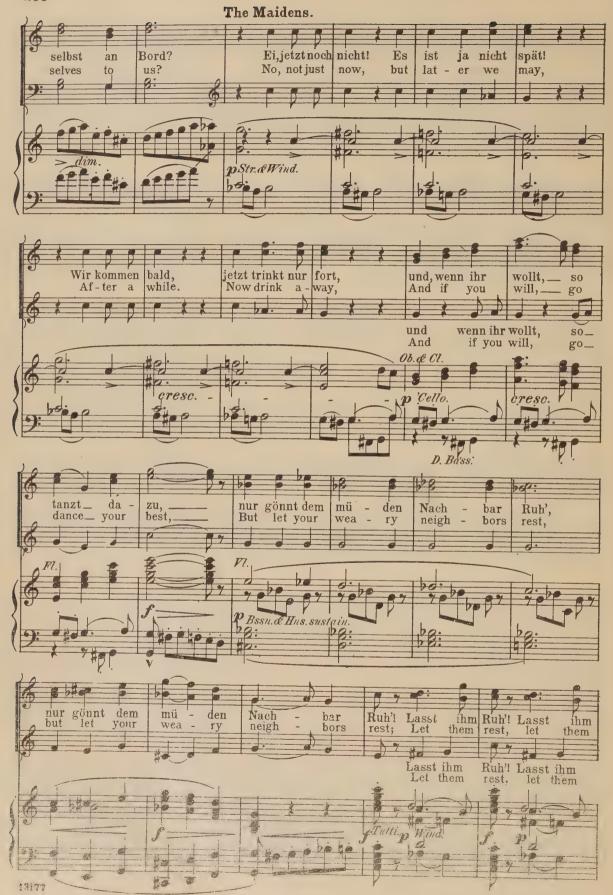




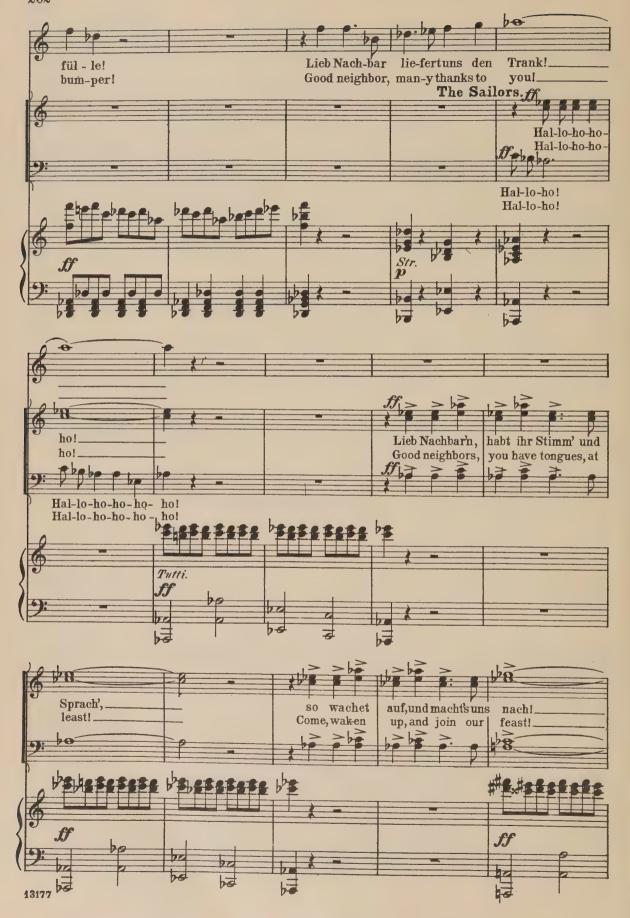






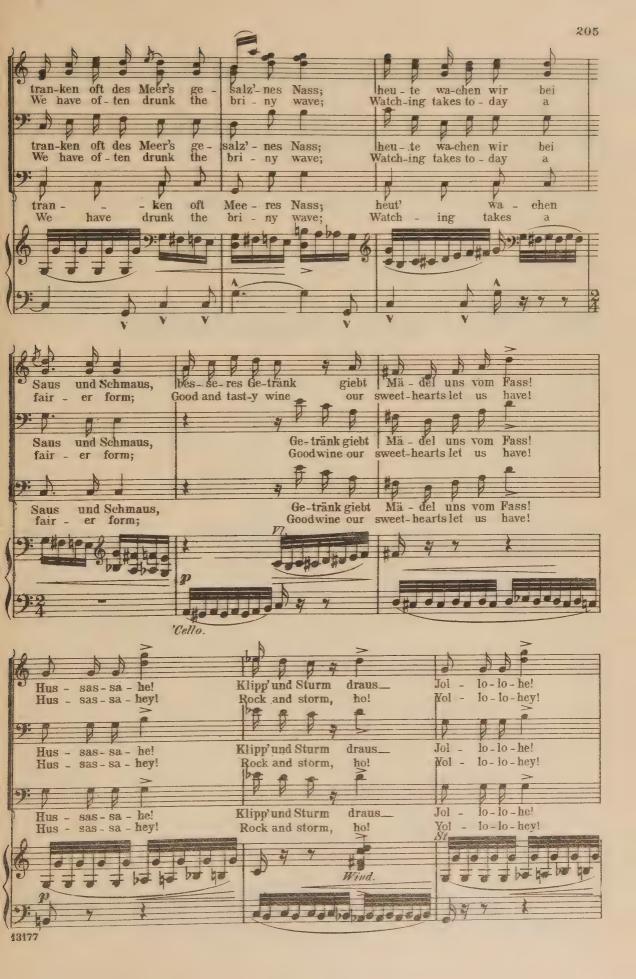


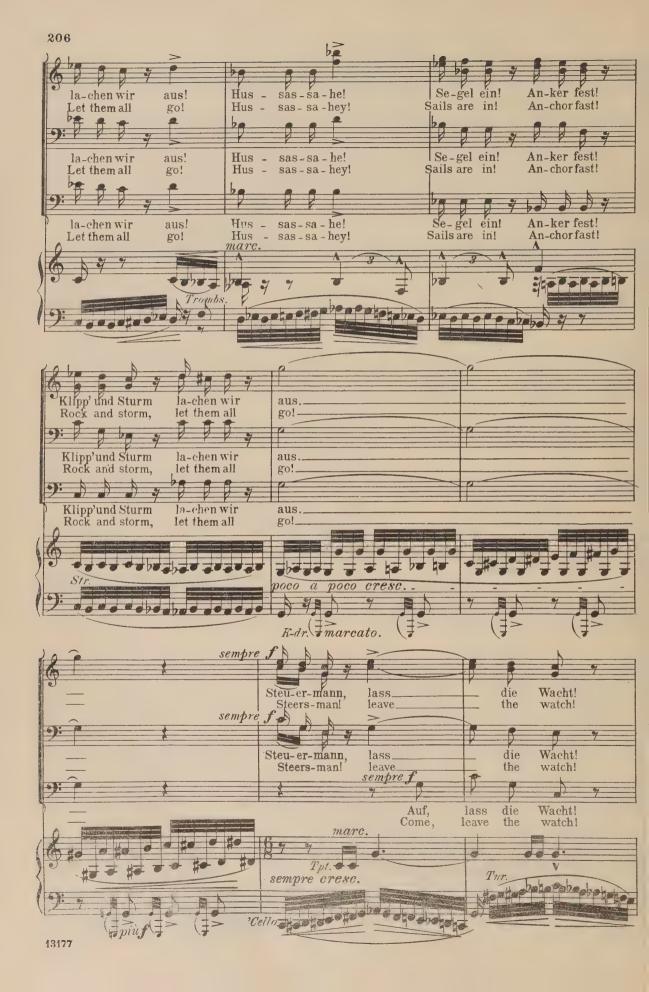




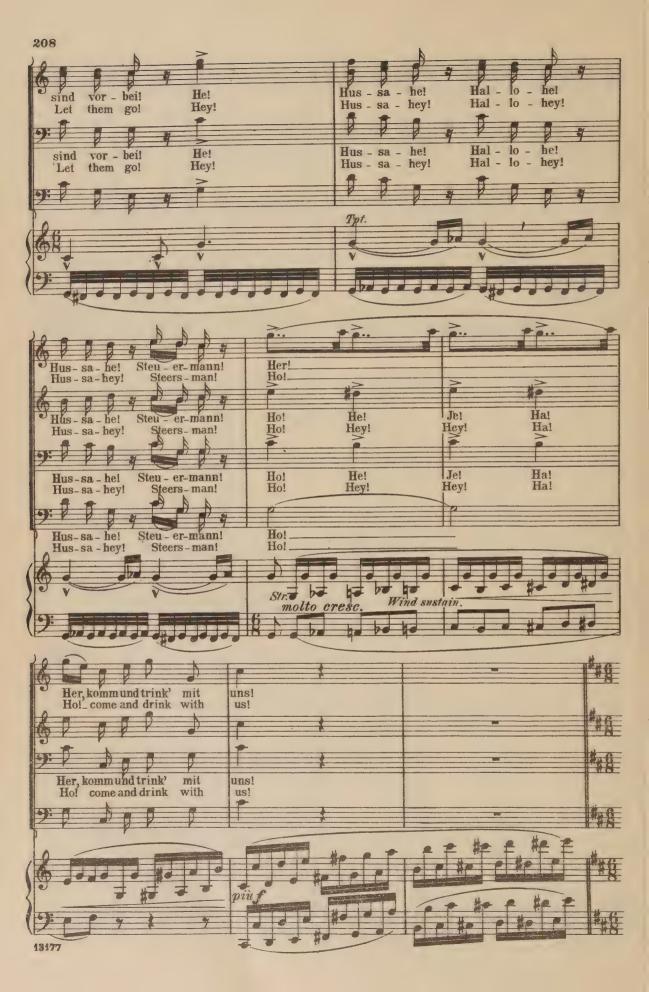








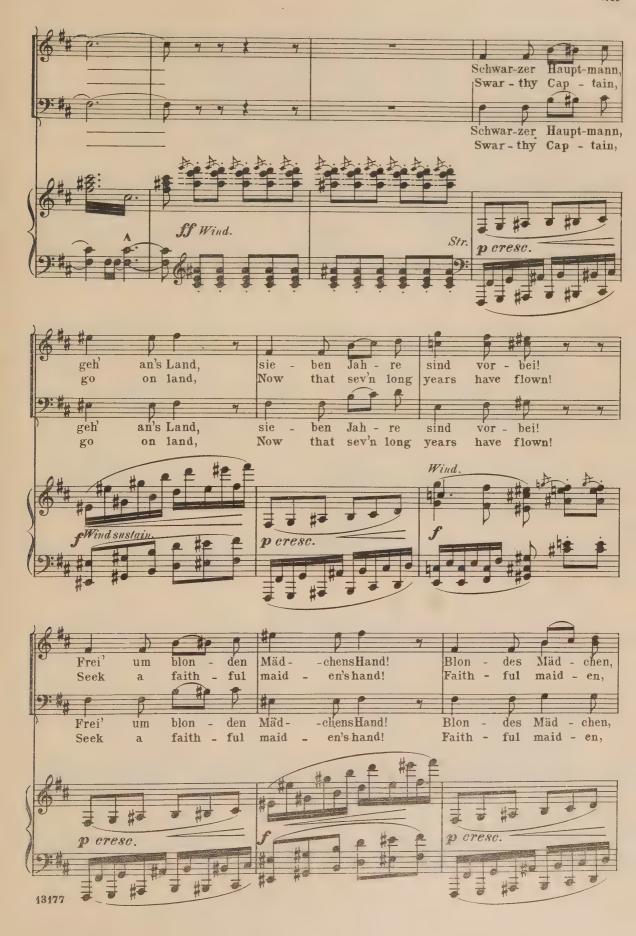


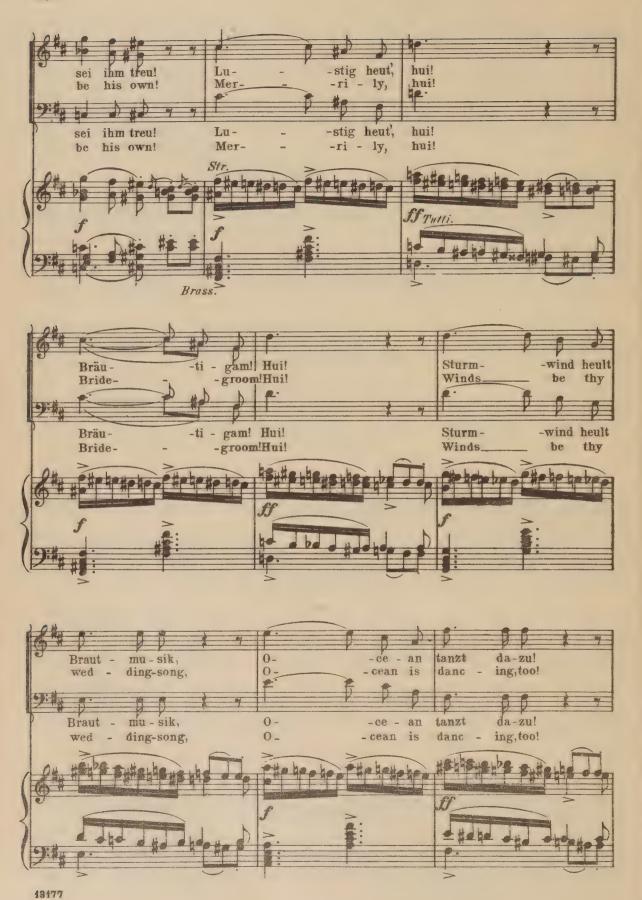


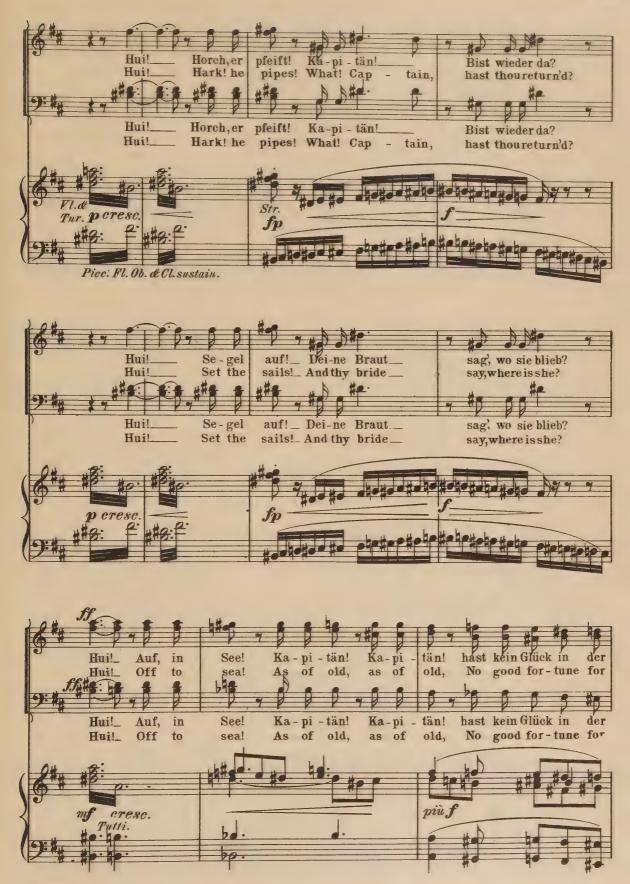
(The sea, elsewhere quite calm, begins to rise in the neighborhood of the Dutch ship. A dark-bluish flame flares up like a watch-fire on the ship. A loud storm-wind whistles through the cordage; the crew, hitherto invisible, rouse themselves up at the appearance of the flame.)



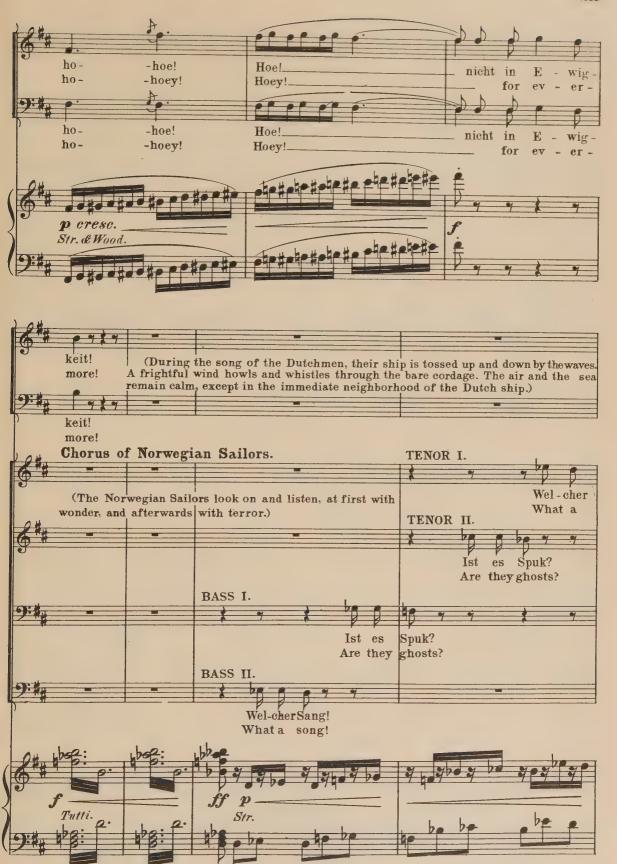


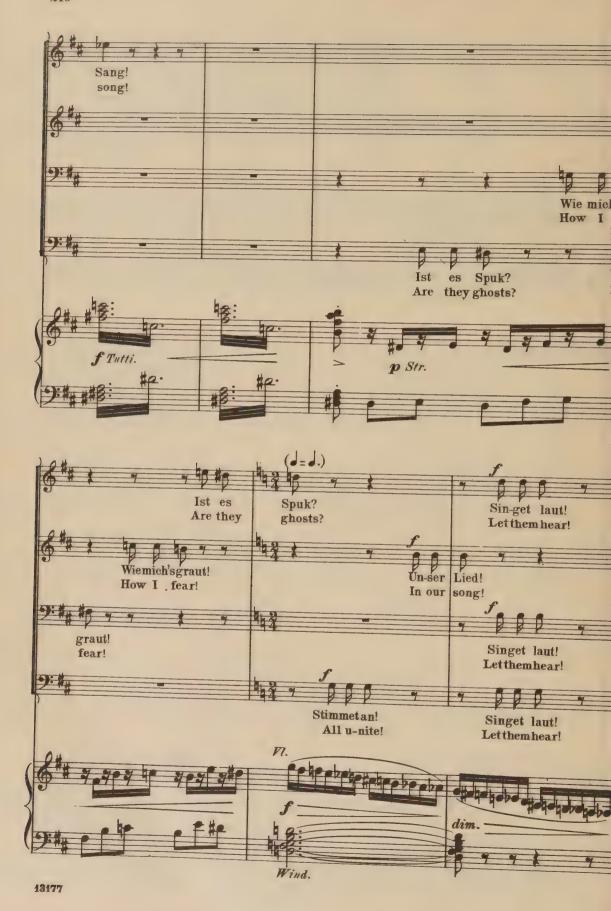




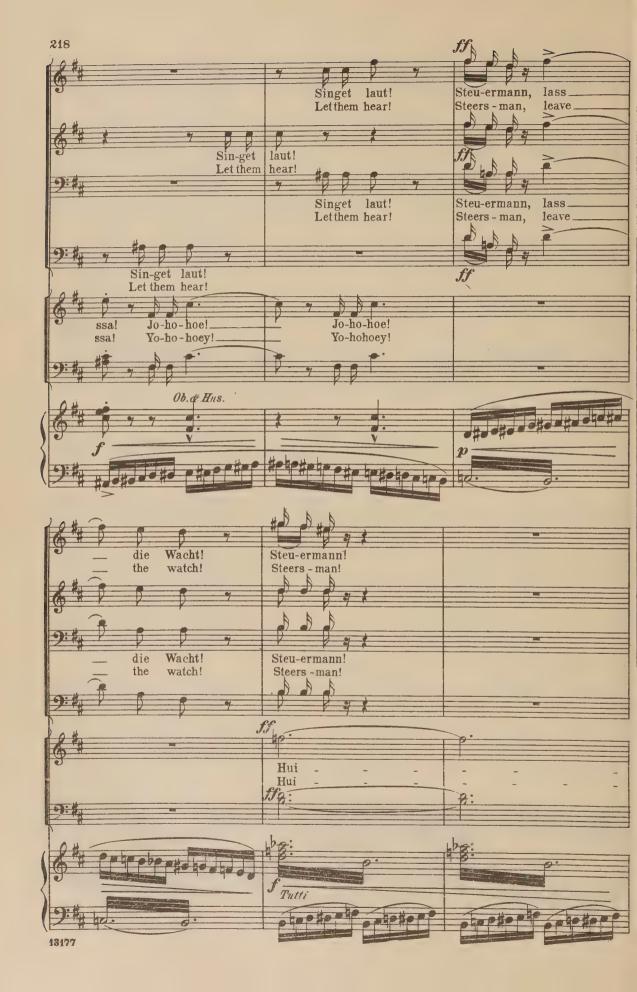






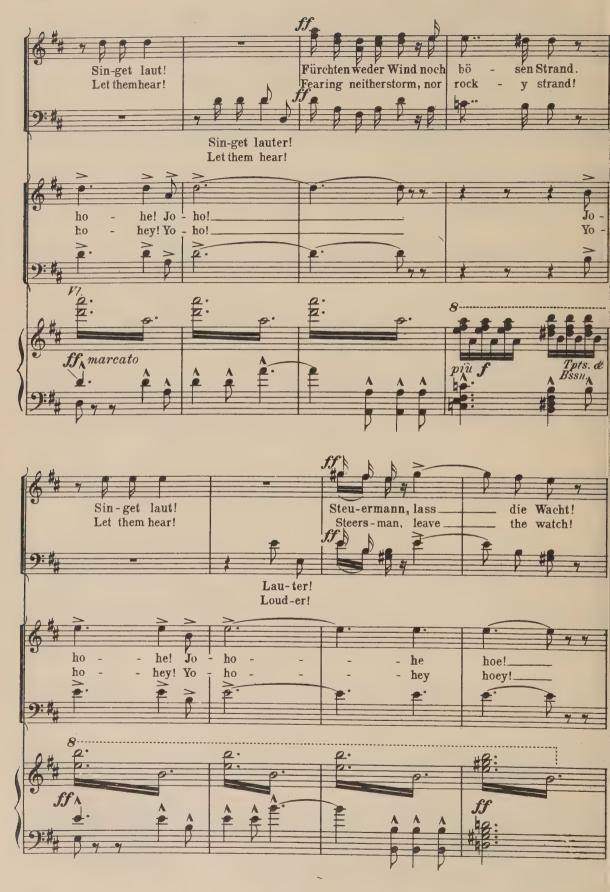


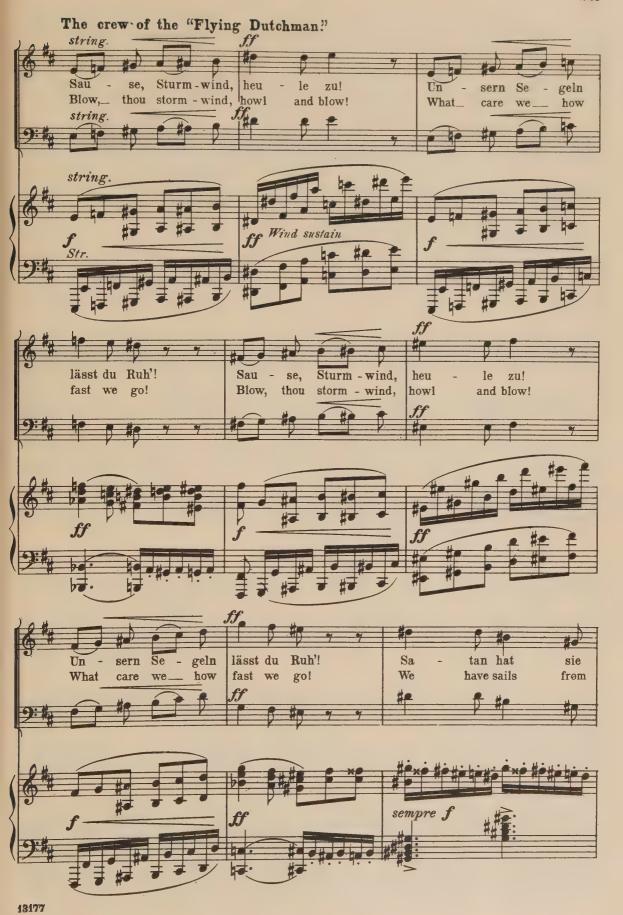












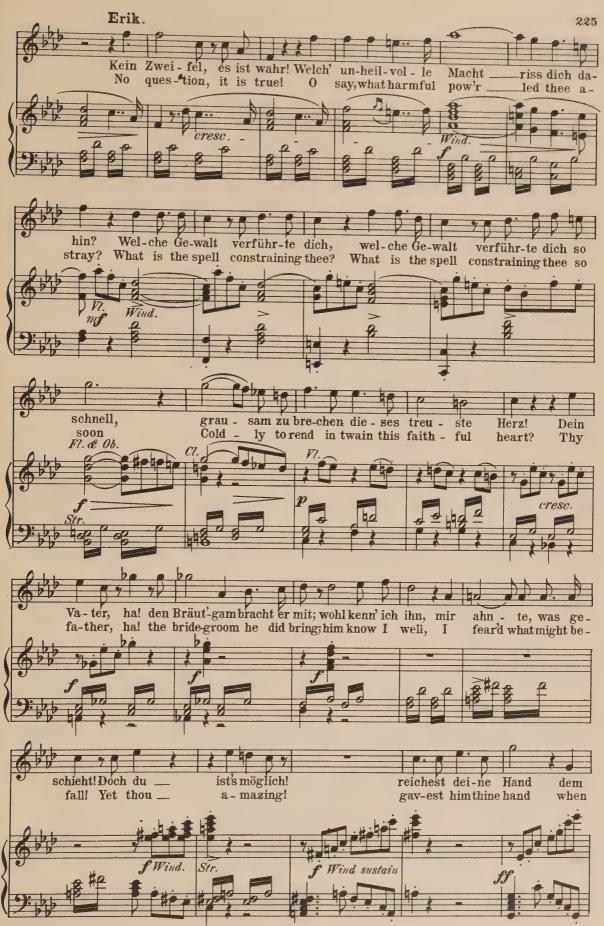


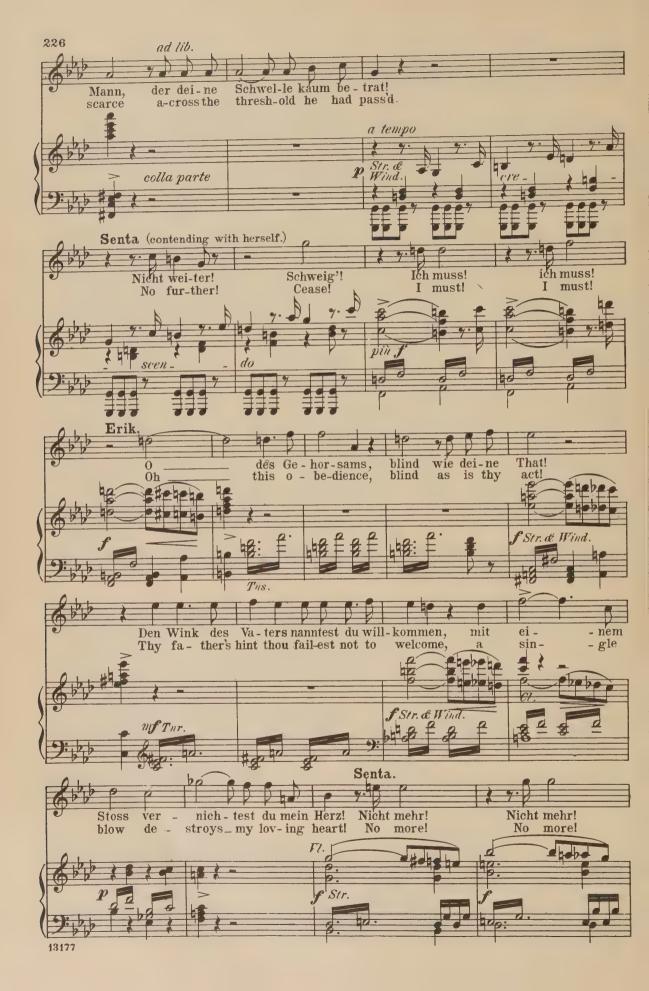


(The Norwegian sailors, silenced by the raging storm and the ever-increasing noise, quit the deck, overcome with horror, and making the sign of the cross. When the crew of the "Flying Dutchman" observe this, they burst into shrill laughter. Immediately there comes over their ship the former stillness as of death: thick darkness is spread over it: the air and the sea become calm as before.)

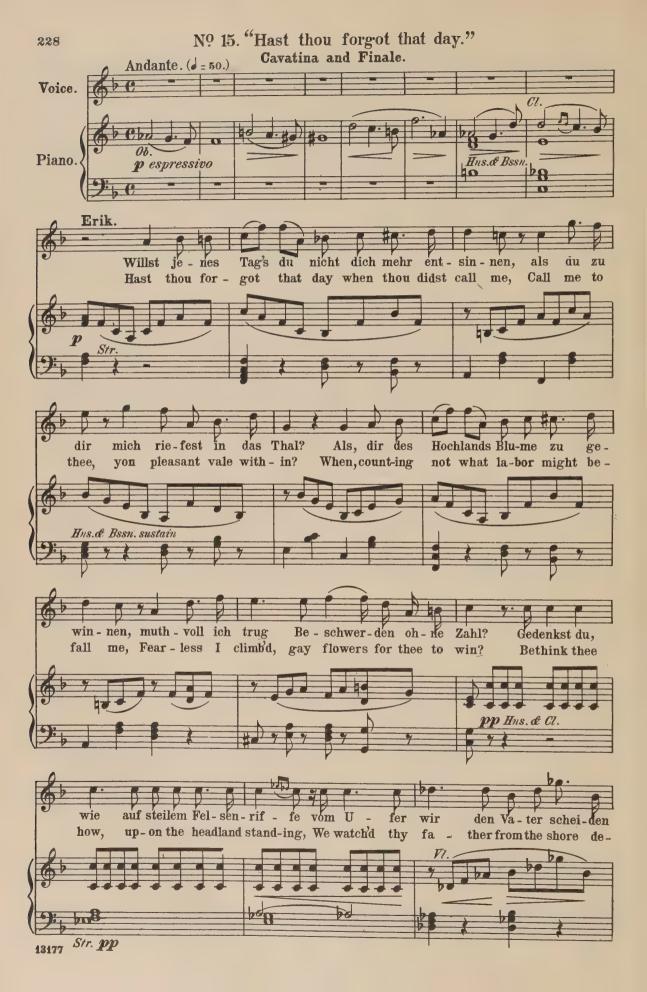




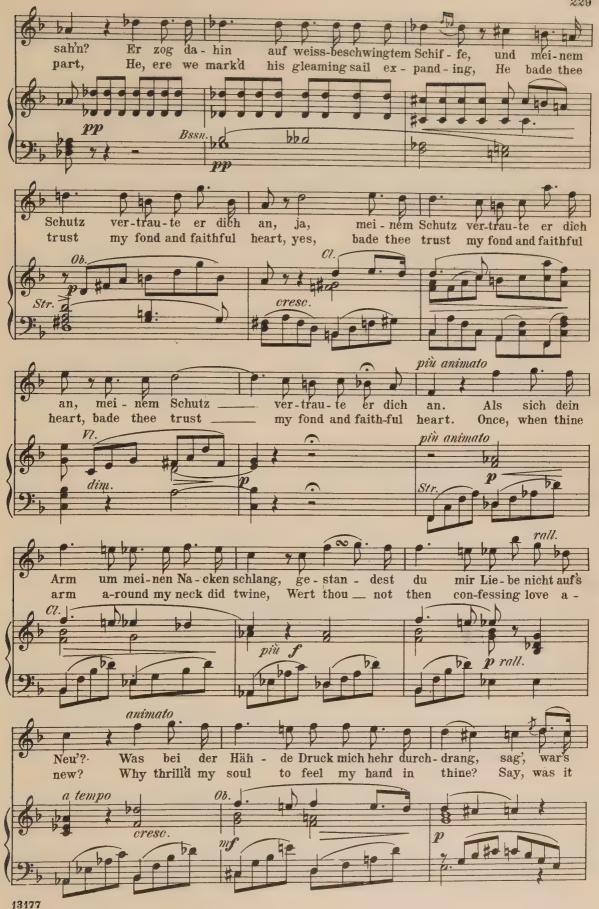


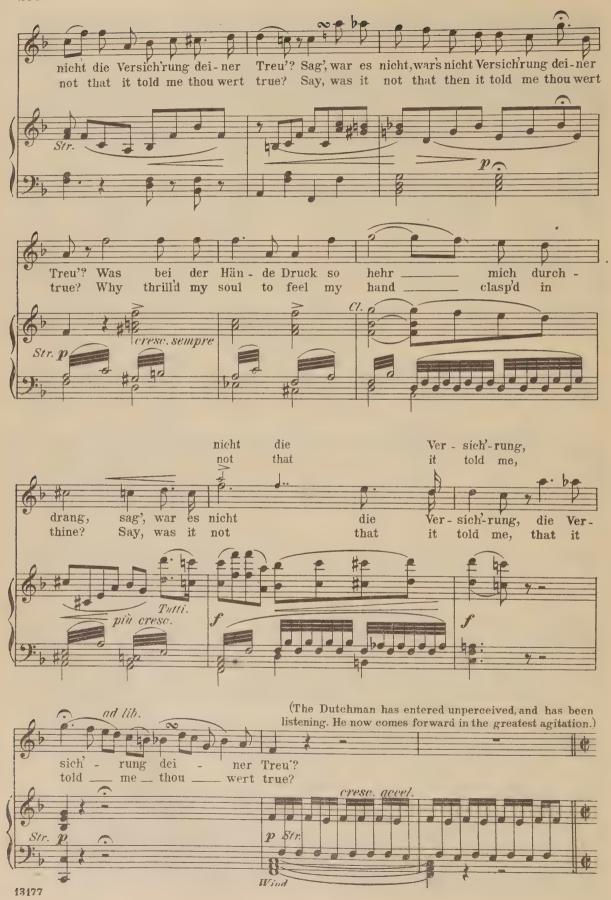


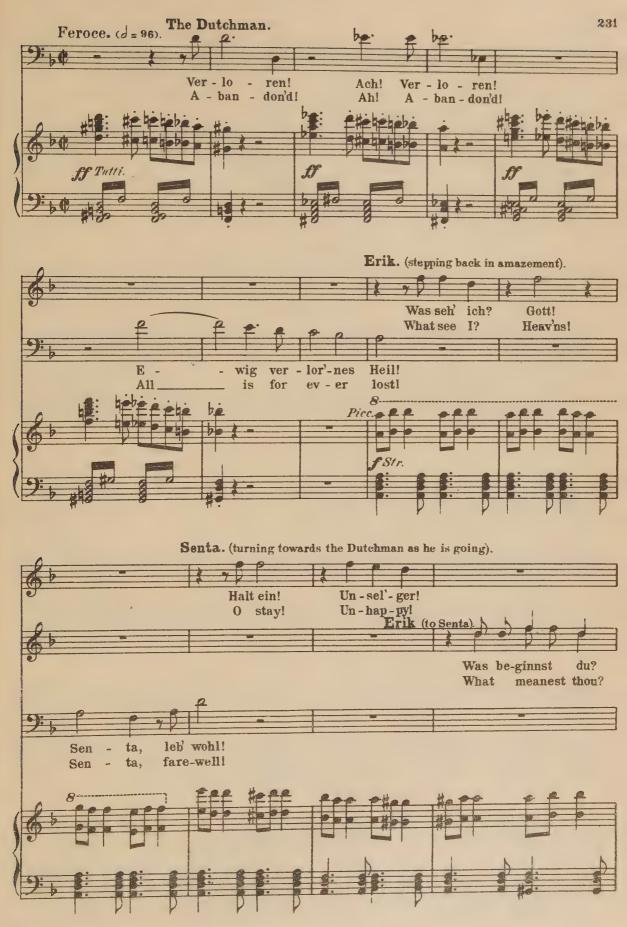


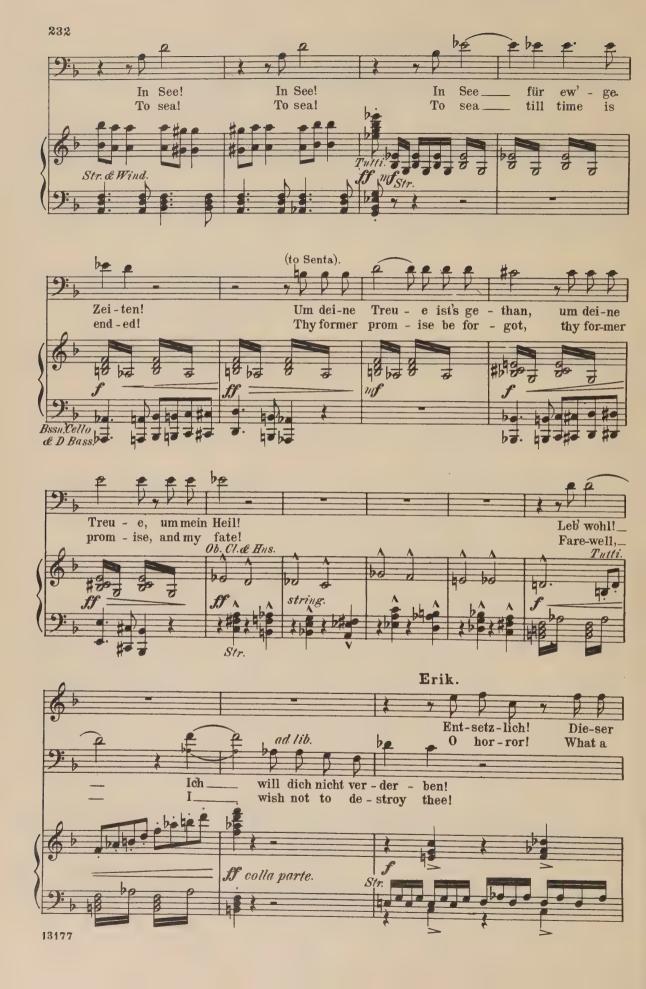




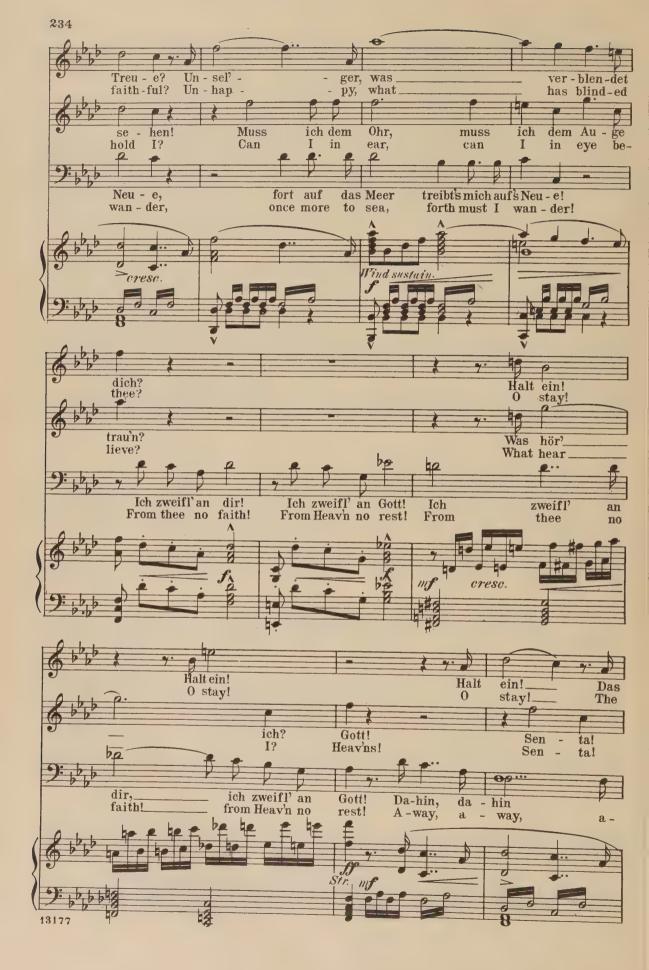




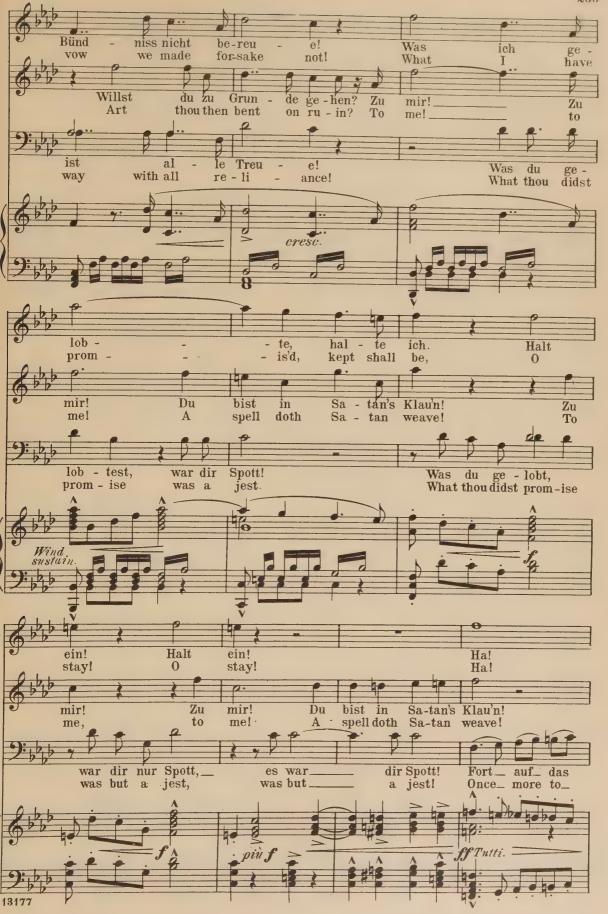








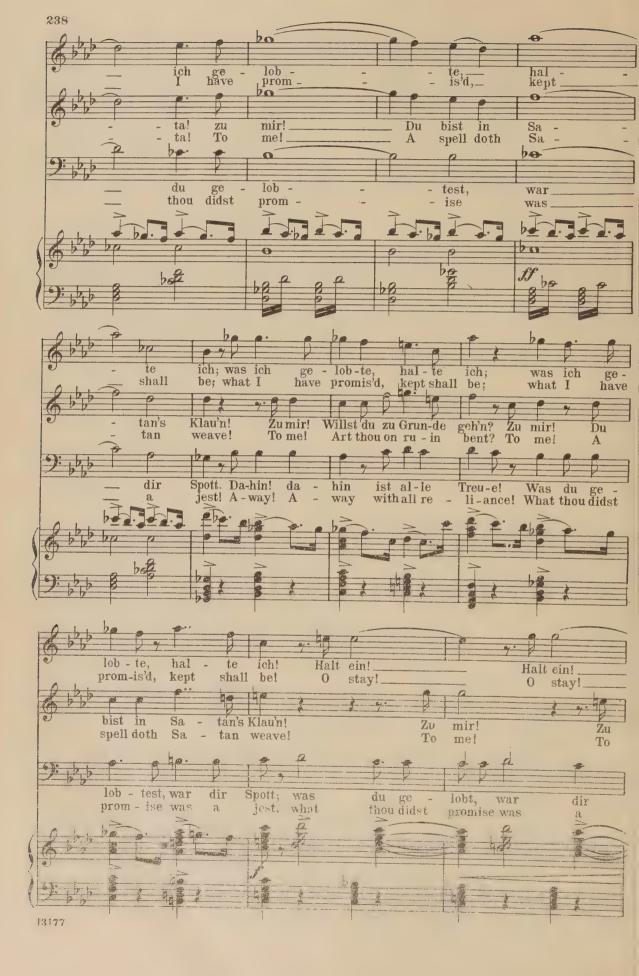








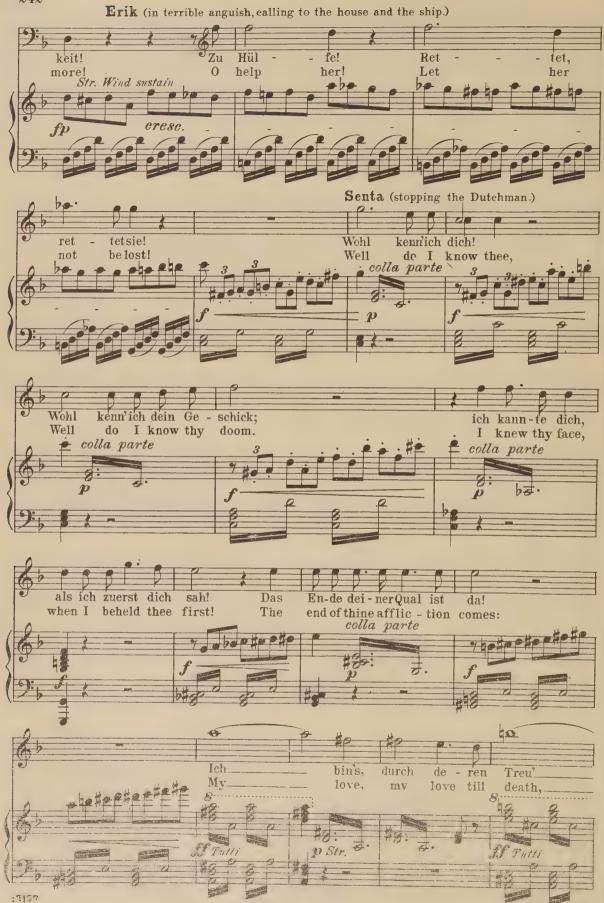


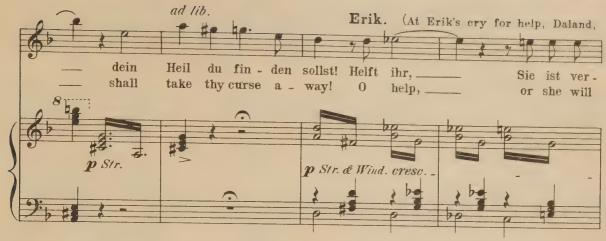




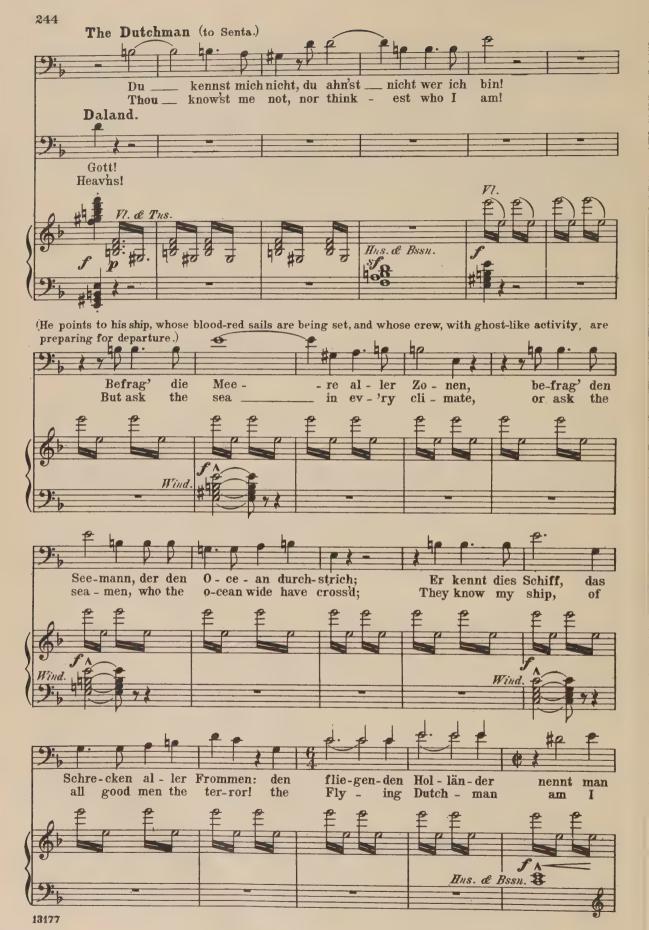












(The Dutchman goes on board his ship with the speed of lightning. The ship at once leaves the shore, and puts to sea. Senta wishes to hasten after the Dutchman, but Daland, Erik, and Mary hold her back.) mich! call'd! TENORS. Jo Jo ho - ho-hoe! Ho-jo-ho hoe! Hoe! The Crew of the Yo ho-hoey! Yo hoey! hoey! ho - ho-hoey! Yo-ho, yo "Flying Dutchman." BASSES #4. VI. Fl. Ob. Bssn. & Hus. sempre Mary Sen Sen -Was willst ta! ta! du ta! Sen -Sen -What wouldst thou ta! Erik. Sen-ta! Sen-ta! Was willst du Sen-ta! Sen-ta! What wouldst thou DA Daland Sen ta! Was willst du Sen ta! Sen -What wouldst ta! Sen ta! thou Hoe! Hoey! Chorus of Maidens and Sailors. SOPRANOS. du willst Sen Was Sen -- ta! ta! ta! What wouldst thou - ta! Sen -Şen TENORS ß: du Sen Was willst Sen-- ta! ta! What wouldst thou Sen. - ta! Sen ta! BASSES Sen-Sen ta! Was willst du - ta! Sen --ta! Sen ta! What wouldst thou p Tutti. 13177





